

Flight chaos will continue 'for years'

CAA 'caught on the hop' by huge demand increase

By Michael Horsnell and Boris Johnson

A warning that holiday-makers should expect flight chaos for years to come was issued by the Civil Aviation Authority yesterday as hundreds abandoned their holidays and went home after airport delays of up to 48 hours.

The authority said flight congestion was like a traffic jam on the M25 and predicted it would take years before European air traffic controllers could cope with the staggering increase in flights by introducing new management schemes.

More than 150,000 people who are due to take off for the sun this weekend were told to

check in as normal but be prepared for more delays.

Meanwhile the Association of British Travel Agents said those who had abandoned holidays after delays of more than 24 hours should receive a full refund if they had bought adequate insurance cover through the main operators.

Thousands continued to jam airports and tempers flared in overheated departure lounges throughout the country as the British Airports Authority disclosed that its

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seven airports handled 6,400,000 passengers in June, an increase of 6.6 per cent on the same month last year.

Sir Norman Payne, chairman of the BAA airports group, told shareholders at the company's annual meeting it was vital that airlines, airports, tour operators and government meet urgently to plan better how to cope with congestion problems next summer.

"There is not a tremendous amount we can do this summer", he said.

Sir Norman blamed the present problem on "difficulties" with the ATC control of various Mediterranean countries, naming also Turkey, Italy and France "to some extent", and "Spain spasmodically".

It had developed to the point where, he felt, because of previously insufficient investment and lack of co-ordination now "between country to country".

There seemed little alternative to keeping waiting passengers checked in and close at hand at the airport - even though it might involve a long wait.

"As we have found on the flights to Greece for example, an airline operator gets half an hour's notice he has got a slot," he said.

Airport managers, recovering from the effects of the Greek air controllers' dispute were, meanwhile, waiting anxiously to see if threatened industrial action by Spanish and French controllers causes

further flight chaos next week. Continuing delays were due to aircraft and crews being in the wrong place after the Greek dispute, or pilots having used up their duty hours.

A spokesman for the CAA said: "Suddenly people found they had more money to spend on holidays abroad and they all wanted to head for the sun. We were all caught on the hop throughout Europe trying to deal with the huge increase in flights."

The CAA warning came after passengers spent another night crowded into airport departure lounges.

A spokesman at Manchester airport said: "There have been a few people who have given up and gone home."

Airport police were called when angry Tenerife-bound holiday-makers found the waiting too much and threatened airline staff.

At Gatwick up to a thousand holiday-makers were stranded overnight and further serious delays were forecast.

At Luton, where three-quarters of flight were delayed, some up to 33 hours, there was no prospect of clearing the backlog until early next week.

Luton, currently celebrating its golden jubilee, was the arena for a seaway contest between the stiff British upper lip and the Anglo-Saxon expletive.

By late yesterday, the stiff upper lip was winning but until Britannia Airways flights 172A and 025A took off respectively 33 and 25 hours late, it was a close-run thing. Flight 172A, due to leave Luton for Heraklion, Crete, at 7.15am on Thursday, finally began boarding around 2.30pm yesterday, complete with whoops of delight from passengers - and praise for Thomson Holidays, the charter operators, who had accommodated most of its 260 clients overnight in some of the priciest hotels in the area.

Mr Antonio Soler, a spokesman for the air traffic controllers at Palma airport in Majorca, where 200,000 passengers are expected to fly in and out at the weekend, said that his colleagues were unable to cope with the volume of traffic.

One traveller finds peace



Solitude: Pope John Paul walking in the Italian Dolomites near the Austrian border, where he is believed to be preparing a Papal document on the role of women in the church.

Oil giants face threat of petrol price inquiry

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Britain's leading oil companies are almost certain to face a full-scale investigation of their petrol pricing policies by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

An all-party committee of MPs has concluded a thorough investigation of the petrol industry and found scant evidence of genuine price competition between the main companies, led by Shell, Esso and BP.

The Trade and Industry select committee is to publish a report the week after next in which it will call on the Office of Fair Trading to investigate. If the OFT agrees that there is a case to answer, then a referral to the Monopolies Commission is almost certain.

The last such investigation of the industry by the commission was in 1979. This concluded that a monopoly existed, but that at that time it was not acting against the public interest. However, it asked the OFT to monitor the situation.

In evidence to the committee in April, Sir Gordon Borrie, director-general of the OFT, gave a clear hint that he was ready to call in the Monopolies Commission. He admitted that the leading oil companies "did not compete hard on price" and said the control exerted "by the companies on petrol stations and their pricing levels came 'very close' to illegal retail price maintenance. He said he would be examining the committee's findings "with a view to a reference of the petrol industry to the Monopolies Commission".

The committee, chaired by the Conservative MP Mr Kenneth Warren, began what it believed would be a brief inquiry at the beginning of this

year, but unearthed more and more disturbing facts. Their report is likely to point out that for several years the oil companies have preserved almost unchanged shares of petrol sales, in all cases just under the 20 per cent figure that would automatically trigger a Monopolies Commission inquiry.

The MPs will not suggest that the companies operate a cartel, but will point out that when one company raises its petrol price the others invariably follow suit, and that pump prices lag behind world oil price changes.

The report will say that the one "mini-major" that is competing to increase its market share is Jet, which is able to sell its petrol at a price a few pence a gallon below that of all the main companies.

When Sir Gordon appeared before the committee, the MPs alleged that the companies had "curved up" the market between them and accused him of complacency. In the course of its inquiry the committee learnt that the leading companies regularly supplied petrol to each others' stations to save on delivery costs.

The committee is also likely to investigate past advertising campaigns by the companies which suggested that their petrol was unique, when in fact each was selling the others' brands.

One consequence of the leading companies' reluctance to increase their market shares is that they withdraw from rural areas which are costly to supply, and concentrate on the more profitable urban areas.

In the course of its inquiry the committee took evidence from the Petrol Retailers' Association, which said that

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Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

Two people shared the daily prize yesterday (see page 3) but there is a chance today to win the weekly prize of £8,000, and the Portfolio Accumulator stands at £122,000. Tables: Pages 29, 33

Base rates set to rise

Base rates are set to rise to 11 per cent next week, forcing the building societies to lift mortgage rates as high as 12 per cent, in response to inflationary pressures. The rate of inflation rose to 4.6 per cent in June, the highest for two-and-a-half years and the fourth successive monthly increase. Pressure on base rates also intensified as a result of a sharp fall in sterling after better-than-expected US trade figures. The pound fell by 2.75 cents to \$1.6625. Page 25.

Price leads

Nick Price of Zimbabwe led by one shot from Seve Ballesteros at the halfway stage of the Open golf championship after shooting a second-round 67. Pages 39, 40.

Village Voice

What happens when a new road opens a small Himalayan mountain village to the outside world? Victor Zorza and Venu Sandal record the challenge it posed. Page 9.

Exam results

Degrees awarded by the universities of Liverpool and Reading will be published on Monday. Results from the University of Strathclyde appear today. Page 35.

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Oil experts blame lack of pipe tests for tragedy

By Tony Dawe

As five Piper Alpha oil wells continued burning out of control last night, *Times* inquiries revealed that gas pipes which may never have been inspected during the rig's 12 years could be to blame for the disaster that killed 166 men.

A new line of inquiry being pursued by government investigators is that a massive rupture of a pipe containing gas under pressure started the chain of explosions which ended with a huge blast in Piper Alpha's gas compression module 10 days ago.

Oil industry experts have

told *The Times* that testing every inch of the miles of pipe aboard the rig was too costly, and time-consuming - though the risk of failure increased with every day of use.

A technical inquiry, set up by the Government, will at-

tempt to discover whether metal fatigue, corrosion or, as the latest theory suggests, internal erosion caused by pressurized pellets of liquid hitting the insides of the pipes like bullets, led to the fracture.

Helicopter ditches 2

Its results will be presented to a public inquiry to be held in Aberdeen later this year, which is certain to examine the adequacy of the inspection procedures for oil and gas rigs.

Trade union leaders representing North Sea workers have been pressing for years, for a fully independent inspectorate to take over the role currently played by the Department of Energy. Engineers, scientists and oil company executives interviewed by *The Times* maintain that few checks were

made before the rig was built, and that the inspection procedures for oil and gas rigs.

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made before the rig was built, and that the inspection procedures for oil and gas rigs.

Government dumping Ulster 'millstones' Short Brothers to go on sale

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

The state-owned Short Brothers aircraft company in Northern Ireland is to be offered for sale in the latest of a series of moves by the Government, which is determined to rid itself of the province's loss-making industries.

An announcement of the sale of Shorts, which is the province's largest manufacturing employer, is expected next week when it will be made clear that the Government will welcome offers for either the whole company or any of its three divisions.

The move by the Government follows yesterday's announcement of plans to privatize Northern Ireland electricity and the decision to offer another loss-making, state-owned company, Harland and Wolff, to the millionaire Indian shipowner, Mr Ravi Tikoo.

Tentative approaches have been made for Short Brothers, which employs 7,600 workers.

There is confidence that buyers could be found for the profitable missile division which manufactures the Blow Pipe and Javelin weapons and is engaged in developing the Star Sreak on a Ministry of Defence development-and-production contract.

It is also hoped that the aero structure division, which makes a range of products such as wing sets, undercarriage doors and underlays for a number of airline companies including Boeing and Fokker, will prove attractive.

But the prospects for selling the unprofitable aircraft division are much gloomier and there are fears ministers would be prepared to let this division close with the loss of 3,000 jobs.

The division, which makes the SD-360 commuter aircraft and Tucano trainer aircraft for the RAF, is presently having discussions with Dornier, a West German aerospace firm,

with a view to forming a partnership to develop the 44-seat FXJ twin jet regional airliner for the 1990s.

Ministers and officials are exasperated with the air of unreality that exists at Shorts, where losses and provision for future losses are likely to be almost £130 million when the accounts for 1987/1988 are published. In 1986/1987 the company lost £20 million and £37 million in 1985/1986, having made a profit of £500,000 in 1984/1985.

The Government believes that as long as the company is state-owned there is no prospect of it facing up to its problems.

"The gap between reality and expectations at the company is quite astonishing. The bubble of complacency must be burst. You have got a heavy and growing financial burden with a management that leaves a lot to be desired," the source said.

New evidence from Clowes investors

By Lawrence Lever

Vital new evidence has emerged in the Barlow Clowes affair which is likely to put pressure on the Government to include funds placed in Gibraltar within the scope of any compensation package for investors. Until now the Government has strongly implied that funds placed with Barlow Clowes International are outside the scope of Britain's investor protection laws and therefore no compensation will be considered.

Alexander Tatham, the Manchester solicitors co-ordinating an action group of more than 1,000 Barlow Clowes investors, says investments appear to have been switched from Britain to the offshore funds of Barlow Clowes without prior permission from the investors. The evidence came in replies to questionnaires sent out by the firm to investors.

Mr David Pine of Alexander Tatham said yesterday:

"We would guess that in many instances the investors did not realize, or that in some cases they were simply sent some form of notification that the transfer had taken place. You can't do that unilaterally."

Investors in the offshore funds of Barlow Clowes which were marketed from Gibraltar are facing losses of more than £100 million. By contrast, the British end, which was licensed by the Department of Trade and Industry, appears to have only a small deficit.

DTI ministers have strongly implied that the Government would only accept responsibility for the British business of Barlow Clowes if the independent inquiry into its handling of the affair finds that it was negligent.

However, the new evidence could mean that investors in the British end who were moved without prior permission would participate in any compensation package.

Plain English attack on honourable gentlemen

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The quaint and ancient tradition of deeply antagonistic MPs addressing each other across the Commons chamber as "honourable gentlemen" is being challenged.

A small group of left-wing Labour MPs yesterday tabled a Commons motion calling for this and other "archaic" forms of address used during Commons debates to be abandoned in favour of "plain English".

Mr John Hughes, the Labour MP for Coventry North-East who sponsored the motion, said: "The way things are now done people watching television wouldn't have the faintest idea what is going on and who is being

referred to. We should call each other by our real names."

But Tory MPs led by Sir Bernard Braine, the Father of the House, immediately denounced the Labour idea as "claptrap" and dismissed its proponents as "crackpots". He argued that without such courtesies civilized debate in the House would disappear.

However, the matter is unlikely to rest there. The dispute is likely to move to the procedure committee of the House, which is about to commence an exhaustive inquiry into how the ancient ways and traditions should be modernized so that viewers can readily understand what is happening when the television cameras are admitted next year.

"Our committee is looking at all

aspects of procedure that will be seen in the House and obviously forms of address must be an aspect of that procedure," conceded Sir Peter Emery, the Conservative chairman of the committee.

"The committee will obviously consider the matter fully. There are some people who feel there may be a need for alteration but there are many people who feel that the House should not alter for television and if the public is to see us, it should see us wars and all," Sir Peter said.

But Sir Bernard was adamant that the Labour moves will find no favour with the overwhelming majority of members.

The forms of address are many and

BARBARA TAYLOR BRADFORD



TO BE THE BEST THE NO.1 BESTSELLER READ THE BEST THIS SUMMER GRAFTON BOOKS

Handwritten text: 07110152A

NEWS ROUNDUP

Plutonium leak inquiry launched

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday ordered an urgent inquiry into how a sealed canister containing plutonium, the most dangerous substance handled by the nuclear industry, was found on a beach at Drigg, Cumbria.

Police bomb alarm

Midlands police are checking for links between an explosive device found near a police station yesterday and four similar alerts. Earlier a caller to Beacon Radio in Birmingham said a bomb had been left at the police station.

Health screening plan

A private health insurance company is planning to set up a health screening centre on a National Health Service hospital site. Private Patients Plan, Britain's second largest health insurance firm is negotiating a deal with Central Manchester health authority under which it will rent space in the private patient's block at the Manchester Royal Infirmary.

US general sentenced

A United States general based at a communications base in North Yorkshire who caused the death of a girl by reckless driving was yesterday given a six-month jail sentence, suspended for two years. At York Crown Court General Mario Cartagena, aged 46, based at Menwith Hill, was also banned from driving in Britain for five years.

Homes 'race bias'

The Commission for Racial Equality expects to report in the autumn on allegations that a property developer in Leicester attempted to prevent black people from buying on a new housing estate. An investigation has been in progress since the end of last year into the allegation that the developer was withholding information about the scheme from potential black purchasers.

Gunman quizzed

A man with a rifle was arrested outside the Central Criminal Court yesterday afternoon. Chief Inspector John Ellis, head of court security, said: "Police are still questioning the alleged gunman. He was armed with an old shotgun which he claimed he bought at a market. We have not ascertained whether there is a connection with any of the cases going on."

Russians paying with fish for ship repairs

A Hull company is accepting a \$300,000 consignment of fish in part payment for work on a Russian ship, because of the Soviet Union's shortage of foreign currency. Repairs to the 16,000 tonne Russian vessel, Trudovaya Slava, will be carried on the Humber. The ship is now at Riga on the Baltic coast.

Police find IRA heavy machine gun

Police in the Irish Republic yesterday said they had seized a Russian-made DSHK 12.7mm heavy machine gun, which can fire armour-piercing shells for a distance of two miles and is capable of shooting down British Army helicopters. The IRA gun was hidden by a river at Borris-in-Ossory, Co Laois, not far from where an arms cache containing two rocket-propelled grenade guns was discovered 10 days ago.

Shipyard dispute five weeks on

Trident nuclear warship programme, has been strike bound, bogged down in a dispute over fixed holidays that seems more suited to a past industrial era. The effect of the first all-out official stoppage in the company's history has been dramatic. The cranes that tower over the streets of terraced houses are motionless and a £300 million investment in latest technology lies unused.

Government dilemma on IRA inquest

The dilemma over whether to send seven SAS men to the Gibraltar inquest into the shooting of three IRA terrorists in March is causing confusion and doubt among senior Government ministers, Whitehall officials and the military. Ministers have said that the decision lies with the SAS men themselves. But this "hands-off" approach is disingenuous as the ultimate decision lies with the Government, senior Whitehall sources emphasized.

North Sea safety review urged after helicopter ditches

Sixteen offshore oil workers and two crew members were rescued from the North Sea yesterday afternoon after their helicopter was forced to ditch in the sea. A Norwegian Air Force rescue helicopter picked up all 18 men, two of whom were British, 35 minutes after the Aerospaciale Super Puma chartered to BP had ditched in the sea 71 miles south-west of Stavanger.

Travellers must have more protection

Tougher rules for tour operators are called for by the Consumers' Association. Commenting on a new charter of holidaymakers' rights, Mr John Beishon, the association's director, said that the European draft directive on package travel would give travellers new protection with one hand and take it away with the other.

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Government and the SAS, since it would leave the whole Gibraltar operation in the air; is there a serious risk of a verdict of "unlawful killing", and will the presence of the SAS men in the witness box tip the balance in their favour? And if it is felt that the personal risks are too great for the men to appear and the verdict is an open one, does this oblige the Government to hold its own judicial inquiry in this country?

Ski victim returns



Mrs Patti Palmer-Tompkinson returned to her home at Dummer, Hampshire, yesterday, after more than four months in a Swiss hospital being treated for serious leg injuries sustained when an avalanche hit the Prince of Wales's skiing party at Klosters in March.

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Election Labour at odds

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday blamed the left-wing challengers for the party leadership for Labour's failure to win the Kensington by-election. As the Conservatives celebrated the success of their candidate, Mr Dudley Fishburn, in holding the marginal west London seat with a majority cut from 4,447 to 815, the infighting that has dogged Labour erupted again.

Table with 2 columns: Candidate Name and Vote Count. Includes Dudley Fishburn (C) 8,829, Ann Holmes (Lab) 8,014, William Goodhart (SLD) 2,546, John Martin (SDP) 1,180, Phyllis Hobson (Greens) 572, etc.

distractions of party elections gave the public the impression that Labour was more concerned about its internal affairs than those of the country. However, within hours of his comments being known in London, the differences between the leadership and the hard left opened up.

Threat is feared to 750 jobs

British Shipbuilders yesterday announced "substantial" layoffs among the 2,300 workforce at North East Shipbuilders at Sunderland. It would not confirm local reports that as many as 750 workers may be laid off as the yard runs out of orders.

Buyers reject £6m Turner and go for unknown painting

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

In a move that surprised the art world, a Turner painting with a reserve of more than £6 million and billed as a likely record breaker, failed to attract even one bid at a Christie's auction yesterday.

Yet at the same sale, buyers competed furiously for a work by an artist few people have heard of, Jacques-Laurent Agasse. The latter's painting of *Two Leopards Playing* fetched an extraordinary £3.8 million against an estimate of up to £1 million, selling to a telephone bidder.

But *Cicero at his Villa*, the Turner painting — which had been estimated "in excess of £6 million" — drew no bids, although the auctioneer, Mr Noel Annesley, bravely pretended to follow them as eagerly as one might a tennis ball at Wimbledon.

Pre-play lasted about 30 seconds, as onlookers craned their necks to spot the invisible bidders — coming to a grinding stop at £6.2 million.

The painting was expected at least to outstrip the record for a Turner — £7.37 million for *Seascape, Folkestone*, in 1984.

Unless a private, post-sale deal can be arranged, its owner, Mr Evelyn de Rothschild, will have to put it back on his wall again.

"The result shows the market is crazy," commented one dealer afterwards. "But it also shows that Christie's made a major misjudgement. They went into it on the assumption that it was worth that much more than his record painting."

The consensus in the trade, however, had been that it was a "difficult" picture, lacking in emotional power — an "art historian's" painting.

"It nearly sold", Mr Charles Allsopp, chairman of Christie's (London), said. "It was a genuinely beautiful picture in wonderful condition. We may sell it afterwards."

He blamed the press for "floating" too high an estimate figure of £10 million rather than £6 million, saying it "may have frightened buyers off." But there appears to be some contradiction here.

If, as he says, the estimate was £6 million, it was clearly lower than the reserve — a reversal of the usual auction procedure where, for reasons of common sense, reserves are usually higher than estimates.

The picture, one of a hand-ful by Turner still in private hands, was painted in 1839 when Turner was aged 64. It was based on sketches he did during his first trip to Italy in 1819 and shows the diminutive, toga-clad figure of Cicero gesturing from the foreground to the extensive glories of his realm, which extend into the hazy, mountainous distance.

When first shown at the Royal Academy in 1839 it was described by a critic as "another of Turner's examples of revelling with colour, and picturing the dreams of his fantasy".

Jacques-Laurent Agasse had

been marketed by Christie's as the "Swiss Stubbs", and like Stubbs, his painting shows considerable empathy for his subjects: two leopards, one standing and snarling, as the other rolls in apparent rapture at its feet.

Agasse came to England from Switzerland in 1800 and drew much of his inspiration from a menagerie at the Exeter Exchange on the Strand and its rare breeds in particular. The painting was commissioned by George Pitt, the second Baron Rivers.

● Yesterday's English pictures sale at Christie's brought few surprises (writes Jenny Gilbert). A fine hunting scene by Herring sold at a little more than estimate at £440,000, two other almost identical treatments of the subject by the artist having been sold by Christie's in 1984 for £345,000 and £150,000 respectively.

That is evidence of the present strength of this quintessentially English field. Interest is particularly strong in the United States sporting and country subjects, Christie's reports, although it is often British dealers who are doing the buying at auction.

An eighteenth-century picture of a gentleman reclining with a gun and dog, with his gamekeeper standing by, had been estimated to sell at between £20,000 and £40,000, the artist, Henry Walton being generally considered as one of the second rank.

Yesterday it sold to a London dealer for £253,000.



Surprise at Christie's yesterday as the Turner is withdrawn at £6.2 million and the painting behind, by Agasse, fetches £3.8 million (Picture: Chris Harris)

Roman vase was 25p bazaar bargain

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

A glass vase bought at a church bazaar for 25p has proved to be a rare Roman vessel nearly 2,000 years old. It was identified at an archaeology road show in Usk, Gwent, and is in perfect condition.

The purchaser, who wants to remain anonymous, said that she had seen Roman glass in a local museum and was intrigued by the vase, which she thought might be old. When she found that it was indeed Roman "my legs went weak". She bought the vase some months ago in Yorkshire, it is understood. Its condition suggests that it may have come from a grave; it is not known where it was discovered.

The vase, dating to the first or second century AD, was probably made in the Rhineland. It has a long slim neck with a flared mouth, two S-shaped handles, and stands on a round base.

Mr Steve Sell, finds officer of the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust, who recognized the vase as Roman, said: "We held an open day at the Roman fortress site in Usk to display the results of the excavations, and as part of it we held an archaeology roadshow, to which people could bring things to be identified. 'A girl fished this glass vase out of a plastic bag, and I saw that it was Roman. To find such a fragile article of this quality, surviving completely undamaged after nearly 2,000 years is remarkable.'"

No value has yet been placed on the object, and the owner has not decided whether to keep it, sell it, or lend it to a museum. Museums in Gwent are understood to be interested.

The British Museum is likely to be interested in acquiring it, since it holds the largest collection of Roman glass from archaeological sites, and has been collecting in this field since its foundation in 1753, and was the main contributor to the *Glass of Caesars* exhibition in 1987.

In that show the most important example of the Roman glass-maker's art from museum's around the world were brought together for the first time. Most of these were highly decorative and technically elaborate pieces, however, and nothing quite like the simplicity of the present find was on show.



Mr Sell with the vase he identified as Roman

Alcohol report pinpoints biggest spenders

Lighter and quality drink sales rising

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

As the Government attempts to tighten its policies to tackle the growing problem of alcohol abuse, a report was published yesterday advising the industry how to identify potential drinkers.

The report, compiled by Euromonitor, warns companies away from younger drinkers aged 18 to 25 — at which most firms are now aiming new products — in favour of people aged between 25 and 34, who "dominate drinks spending, contain the greatest proportion of affluent, heavy consumers of drink and are an expanding sector of the total population".

It points out that, although pubs are catering for the young in terms of theme and decor, including fruit machines, unemployment among this group was at its highest ever level. "With the 18 to 25-year-olds steadily on the decrease, it is unwise of the drinks industry to focus so much interest on the small sector of the under-25s."

The report confirms that more people are now drinking lighter drinks such as wines,

white spirits, mixable spirits and lager, instead of whisky or sherry. There has also been a movement towards quality, which had boosted sales of malt whisky, premium lager, cider and quality wines. The size of the low-non-alcoholic drinks market was also expected to grow.

The report emphasizes that current public concern about alcohol abuse was seen as a major threat to the industry. "Many recent reports, including one written by the Royal College of Psychiatrists, have painted a bleak picture of what alcohol has done to the nation's health. There are signs that society is becoming less tolerant towards those who drink to excess."

It notes that because of fears that advertising will be restricted, spirits manufacturers had already agreed a self-imposed ban on television advertising. Instead the trade is taking part in social responsibility advertising.

The *Alcoholic Drinks Report 1988* Euromonitor, 87-88 Turnmill Street, London EC1M 5QU Letters, page 11

Libel-case police win £160,000

Eleven Metropolitan Police officers are to share £160,000 libel damages awarded yesterday in the High Court. They were finally cleared of involvement in the beating of five schoolboys.

They had sued the London *Evening Standard* over articles in February 1986 which they said wrongly pinpointed them as the officers responsible for the attack in Holloway Road, north London, in 1983.

After 23 days of evidence a jury took more than four hours to find they had been libelled. The newspaper, which denied libel, was ordered to pay the estimated £350,000 costs, but granted a stay on payment of £126,000 of the award, pending a possible appeal.

The articles were written after the failure of two and a half years investigation to find who was responsible for the assault in which boots, fists and truncheons were used.

Mr Justice Turner had been told the officers were devastated when they read one headline, "We trace suspect van", referring to the van to which they were assigned.

The officers said in evidence they had been abused by colleagues, doubted by families and suffered stress and anguish. It was found later that the guilty officers, convicted last July, came from a different van.

TUC warning to unions

Willis backs training drive

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, has warned trade unions opposing the Government's new £1.4 billion employment training programme that if it fails the whole union movement will deserve condemnation.

He said the scheme was one of the most crucial issues confronting the TUC for many years and the decision to be made by congress in September will have a big impact.

Outlining the TUC's current thinking and policy on training at a seminar organised by the Policy Studies Institute in London yesterday, Mr Willis said there was no viable alternative to the programme, which will be in operation by the autumn.

The Transport and General Workers' Union, the National

Union of Public Employees and the National and Local Government Officers' Association have said they will not co-operate with the programme.

Without mentioning any names, Mr Willis said he could understand the suspicion of those opposed to the scheme.

He said the programme, which was devised by the Training Commission (formerly the Manpower Services Commission), was not perfect. But the trade unions had to work to build on the framework and improve it where possible.

Mr Willis said that if he could choose one issue that the unions and employers had to get right, that issue would be training. He said it offered economic success and individual advancement. He regarded training as a fundamental civil right for everyone.

Mr Roy Jackson, assistant general secretary of the TUC, said the unions had a responsibility to deal with the deficiencies of the employment training scheme.

He said the quality of the Youth Training Scheme had a lot to do with the pressure exerted by the TUC and the employment training programme would have been very different if it had not been for the TUC.

The scheme would almost certainly have been compulsory and payments to those who go on it would have been less, he said.

Mr Jackson said he and his colleagues would work hard to win backing for the TUC's support for the programme.

JPs join battle against drink abuse

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Magistrates were enlisted yesterday as the fight against alcohol abuse was stepped up.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, said new powers to revoke public house licences would give more immediate control over premises where there was disorderly conduct. He told Dorset magistrates: "I am sure you will not shirk from doing your duty. To fail would be to risk serious damage to your country."

The new Licensing Act would enable justices to revoke a licence at any session, not just once a year. The Government alone cannot solve the problems of alcohol, he said.

He added: "Alcohol is a source of

harmless pleasure for many people, but the problems associated with its abuse are individually serious and damaging to society." Magistrates were placed in a vital position of responsibility in that respect and he urged them to think "very carefully" about how they discharged it.

In exercising that responsibility, magistrates must be scrupulously fair to licensees, as well as to those who might object to the renewal of a licence.

Referring to the threat of serious disorder in inner cities, football hooliganism and trouble in the shire counties, Lord Mackay said: "The problems associated with alcoholism cannot be solved by the Government alone. Customers, licensees and magistrates all

Demand for Aids test on prisoners

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

There should be a mandatory test for all inmates on arrival in jail to see if they are HIV positive, the Board of Visitors of Durham Prison says in its annual report, released yesterday.

Officers are reluctant to deal with prisoners who are HIV positive and under restriction, and on occasions have refused

physical education or work in the kitchen where spillage of blood or bodily contact could be possible. The board added: "Although we are told there are no medical grounds for avoiding normal body contact with people who are HIV positive, nor for wearing protective clothing, understandable anxieties remain."

July 15 1988

Britain not 'washing its hands' of Hong Kong

The fears of the people of Hong Kong for their future, and the associated high level of emigration, were raised by MPs of all sides during an all-day debate on the colony.

Backbenchers voiced concern that Britain was washing its hands of Hong Kong as 1997 and the handing over to China approached. This was denied by ministers.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said that emigration was a real problem, particularly among the professional and middle classes. But the scale should not be overstated. In the early 1970s, there had been more emigrants than in the last few years.

The Chinese Government was well aware of the significance of this question as a measure of confidence in the future.

He believed that Hong Kong people could have faith in Hong Kong's future.

He said that the most important component of the Anglo-Chinese relationship "is our joint commitment to the success of Hong Kong."

Opening the debate, Sir Geoffrey said that the people in Hong Kong were engaged in a vigorous debate on the draft of the Basic Law, a document that would play a crucial role in giving effect to the provisions of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and so on in shaping Hong Kong's future.

The Chinese Government had responsibility for drafting the Basic Law. The British Government had a right to assure itself that the principles embodied in the Joint Declaration had been faithfully implemented in the Basic Law.

"Both sides in addition have a common obligation to the people of Hong Kong."

The process of public consultation over Basic Law being conducted by the Chinese authorities was thorough and painstaking. A crucial phase had begun at the end of April with the publication of the first draft. It would continue for five months until the end of September. The way this matter was handled would have an important effect on how the people of Hong Kong viewed their future.

"The Chinese authorities have clearly recognized the need to retain the confidence of the people of Hong Kong in the drafting process."

The Basic Draft Law was a comprehensive document covering virtually all the provisions of the Joint Declaration. Most of the text was already very much along the right lines.

It must be recognized that a high degree of autonomy was not the same as independence.

A topic of particular significance was the relationship between Hong Kong and the National People's Congress in Peking in legislative and judicial matters as well as in the interpretation of the Basic Law. This was a crucial and sensitive area.

"It will be vital to confidence in Hong Kong to define the relationship in a way which not only reflects the fact of Chinese sovereignty but also properly meets the legitimate requirements and expectations of the Special Administrative Region."

A second area that needed to be dealt with closely was the guarantee of essential rights and freedoms. There was under-

standable concern about how the provisions in the draft would work in practice. "We hope that the drafters will listen to these concerns and refine the draft accordingly."

Many people had expressed reservations about provisions in the draft which appeared to bind Hong Kong officials to visit Hanoi and discuss the return of boat people from Hong Kong. So far there had been no significant slackening in the rate of arrival of boat people in Hong Kong.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said that he had many reservations about provisions in the draft which appeared to bind Hong Kong officials to visit Hanoi and discuss the return of boat people from Hong Kong. So far there had been no significant slackening in the rate of arrival of boat people in Hong Kong.

He was pleased that in all the alternatives put forward for the composition of the Legislative Council, direct election would be involved and that in none of them was a proposal for less than 25 per cent of elected members. This showed up the timidity of the 18 per cent proposal by the UK Government.

However, he had misgivings about some of the other articles, and he gave examples.

He said that these were points of detail which were in no sense raised in criticism of the Chinese Government. "I am entirely confident in the good faith of the Chinese Government and indeed I am full of admiration for the unprecedented process of consultation that is taking place in connection with this Basic Law."

The question of confidence was the key to the future. The quantity of emigration in the final years of British sovereignty would be part of the test on the confidence of the people of Hong Kong. "People will not have votes to cast in polling stations but they will be able to vote with their feet and I hope these votes will be a vote of confidence in the future of Hong Kong."

"I have great trust in the

motives of the government of China."

Mr Richard Alexander (Newark, C) said that confidence was at a low ebb in Hong Kong. People feared the future. There had been significant migration of the most highly skilled people. These people feared that they would no longer have control of their own lives.

Some feared that this country was washing its hands of the territory and could not wait until it was wound down. "I do not believe these fears are realistic and I do not believe that is the view taken by the British Government about 1997."

Sir Russell Johnston, SLD spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said that many people in Hong Kong were not convinced that the Basic Law guaranteed what they had been promised. Emigration had been running at about 100,000 a year since 1984.

Mr Bernie Grant (Totterham, Lab) said that he had many people from Hong Kong in his constituency, and they wanted a referendum in the territory on the draft Basic Law.

There was a general feeling that the UK, having signed the Joint Declaration, was now about to "wash its hands of Hong Kong." His constituents felt that the Basic Law seemed to concentrate too much authority in the hands of Peking.

Sir Peter Blaker (Blackpool South, C) said that China had an enormous self-interest in the success of Hong Kong. It would set an example which Taiwan might one day want to follow.

"I am an optimist about Hong Kong, I believe China is taking the drafting of the Basic Law very seriously and genuinely



Mr Alexander: Hong Kong people's fear for the future

PARLIAMENT

Next week at Westminster

Daunting task for MPs on vital Bills

MPs will be considering more than a 1,000 amendments to the Education Reform Bill and the poll-tax legislation in the Commons next week, now that the two Bills have completed their passage through the Lords (Martin Fletcher writes).

Only three days have been set aside for this formidable task, and Labour have registered furious protest. Although Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, insists that many of the amendments are merely technical, he has agreed to further discussions with party business managers. Labour insists that it will settle for no fewer than four more full days.

At present, the Education Bill is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, and the Local Government Finance Bill for Wednesday. The Government will seek guillotine on both.

Labour is also angered that

Republican Party finds itself under challenge in battle to win votes in the electoral middle ground

Democrats in bid to break the coalition Reagan built

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The selection by the US Democrats of Senator Lloyd Bentsen as their vice-presidential candidate...

If it can maintain unity at the convention in Atlanta next week, it has something beyond its grasp for the past eight years - the chance to win.

American voters are traditionally divided into liberals and conservatives, with subdivisions by class, income, race and religion. But a mas-

sive survey some months ago showed this is at least oversimplified and may be misleading. Voting patterns depend more on values and social attitudes than on race, gender, age or income.

The survey, by Mr Andrew Kohut, president of the Gallup organization, and by Dr Norman Ornstein, one of America's most respected political scientists, identifies 11 significant groups in the electorate, each around 9 or 10 per cent of the population, and marked by particular "value clusters".

Among these are degrees of religious faith; tolerance or intolerance of other views; degrees of belief in government's obligation to ensure social justice; intensity of anti-communist sentiment; and amount of economic pressure in the individual's life.

Using such an analysis, the survey, commissioned by the Times-Mirror group of newspapers, found "in national politics, it is a virtual toss-up between the Republicans and the Democrats".

Although the Democrats have a larger core group (41 per cent of the electorate compared with the Republicans' 30 per cent), the addition of Republican-leaning voters and the difference in turnout could make the 1988 race one of the closest on record - another echo of the 1960 election.

The authors found that, in 1984, President Reagan drew huge support from two groups, roughly equal in size. One they label the "enterprisers" - an affluent, educated, white, suburban and largely male bloc, who are pro-business, anti-government, against welfare spending, but tolerant on social issues.

The other is the "moralists" - less affluent, middle-aged, Southern and white, strongly conservative on social and foreign policy, intolerant of dissent but in favour of social spending - except minority programmes.

The two groups coexist uneasily. Surprisingly, Mr Bush may have greater difficulty holding the enterprisers. Two other groups who supported Mr Reagan were even more contradictory: the "upbeats" and the "disaffecteds".

The classifications

ENTERPRISES: married, northern European ancestry, suburban; 18% of likely voters, 99% white, 60% male, 99% Republican. Anti-government, pro-business, oppose tax rises to cut deficit, health spending. HEROES: Reagan, Less, Laccoca. MORALISTS: rural, la Laccoca, "born again" Christians; 14% of voters, 84% white, 45% male, 99% Rep. Strongly anti-abortion, anti-communist, for school prayer, death penalty, restrictions on Aids patients. HEROES: Reagan, Billy Graham. UPBEATS: middle income, little college education, under 40; 9% of voters, 94% white, 44% male, 66% Rep. 1% Dem. Against deficit aid; economic, budget deficit main concern. HEROES: Reagan, Laccoca, John Kennedy. DISAFFECTEDS: middle-aged, middle income, under economic pressure; 7% of voters, 95% white, 57% male, 44% Rep, 26% Dem. Anti-government and business support military and death penalty; unemployment and budget deficit main concerns. HEROES: None. BYSTANDERS: aged under 30, poorly educated, little interest in current affairs; unlikely to vote; 82% white, 48% male, 29% Rep, 33% Dem. HERO: Kennedy. FOLLOWERS: young, poorly educated, blue-collar, many blacks and Hispanics, little religious commitment; 4% of voters, 60% white, 47% male,



The Rev. Jesse Jackson setting out for Atlanta on board one of the six buses in his 'Jackson Action Rainbow Express'.

Dukakis sheds liberal taint with his calculated snub to Jackson

Mr Michael Dukakis's brusque treatment of the Rev. Jesse Jackson is regarded by many as a graceless gaffe, an unnecessary wounding of a proud man's spirit.

Of course, they argue, Mr Jackson had to be let down: it had been clear for months that Mr Dukakis was not going to invite him to join the Democratic ticket. But did he have to be put down? Could not Mr Dukakis, who prides himself on management skills, have tried a little harder to reach his remaining rival before the public announcement of Mr Lloyd Bentsen?

Apologetic campaign aides say Mr Jackson was travelling that morning and that journalists got to him first at the airport. Did anyone try paging him? Or suggest the announcement be held back a few more hours?

Mr Dukakis has now to contend with Mr Jackson's angry resentment which, unless assuaged, could all too easily translate into disillusion and alienation of his many enthusiastic supporters.

Mr Dukakis has unveiled his chosen running mate against a background of controversy, opened fissures in the party and risks a convention more like the free-wheeling, unpredictable party con-

ference the Russians have just held than the well-orchestrated, old-style Soviet gatherings he would clearly have preferred.

He said his choice of Mr Bentsen was his first "presidential" act. If this is the style, some complain, the man being presidential in January will be Mr George Bush.

But the Dukakis callousness was neither accident nor gaffe. The choice of Mr Bentsen was a shrewd gamble, and the

reckoned that anyone Mr Jackson opposed must be more conservative and therefore more acceptable. To send out the same message to the heartlands of America, and especially to white Southerners, Mr Dukakis cannot now be seen fusing his forces with the Jackson camp's calls for military cuts, higher taxes and a Palestinian state.

A little sharp debate at Atlanta helps to maintain a distance. It makes it all the harder for Mr Bush to bandy charges of "McGovern liberalism" with such relish.

Former Democrats chose running mates who were Northern liberals: from Edmund Muskie in 1968 to Geraldine Ferraro in 1984. Mr Dukakis has changed all that. As Mr Bentsen said on being nominated, the choice showed the Democrats are not going to concede a single state, including Texas.

Former President Nixon, a master campaigner, understands the threat well enough: he has just warned Mr Bush that Mr Bentsen has strengthened the Democratic threat and made Texas, Mr Bush's adopted home state, "the big enchilada". He even suggests Mr Bush might do well to concentrate instead on winning another big state, such as

California.

On the day of his letdown, Mr Jackson made an icy but tightly restrained speech saying he was "too controlled, too mature to be angry". He seems now to be almost out of control, carried along on the waves of bitter emotion from his supporters. There is the palpable frustration of the man who has played his last card and has nowhere to go.

For Mr Dukakis has not only refused to pay him any of the craved "respect", but brutally rubbed in the message that Mr Jackson is not to play any special role. Mr Dukakis knows that Mr Jackson can remain a politician of stature only within the Democratic Party. In the end, he will have to accept that Mr Dukakis is the man of the moment.

It is hard-ball politics, the demonstration of the arrogant self-assurance that lost Mr Dukakis the governorship of Massachusetts after his first term. He went to Harvard to learn about give-and-take.

Clearly something of the old streak remains: the head has played a large role over the past week, the heart is barely visible. But elections, most with the head. And mistakes are made from the heart.

Faceless candidate, page 10

Washington View

By Michael Binyon

touch of impatience with Mr Jackson an important signal. Mr Dukakis has demonstrated that he understands it is more important to collect votes than to court or console individuals and their special interest groups; and that, if he wants to slough off the fatal stigmatization as a liberal, he has to behave in a way that shows he is no liberal.

Mr Dukakis knows that elections are won on the centre ground. He must play for the support of those to the right of him. He was helped by having Mr Jackson as a contender on the left during the primaries. Many of those un-reconciled to a radical black

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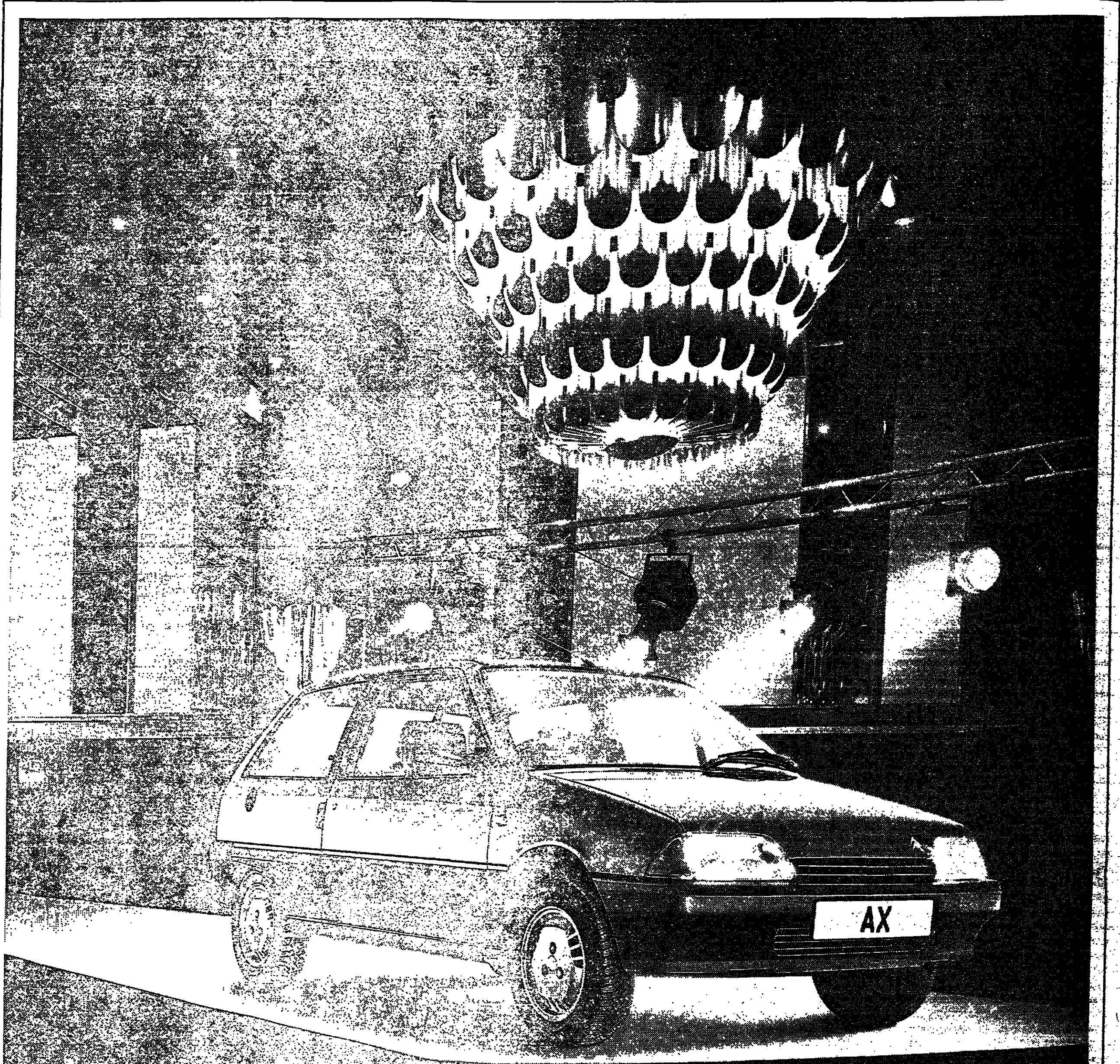
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War of wills over ANC leader's birthday

Mandela's wife snubs visit offer after celebration ban

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Mrs Winnie Mandela announced yesterday that she and other members of her family had rejected an unprecedented government offer to be allowed to spend six hours with her husband, Mr Nelson Mandela, leader of the outlawed African National Congress, in Follsmoor Prison outside Cape Town on Monday, on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

A statement issued by Mr Mandela's lawyer, Mr Ismail Ayob, said that Mrs Mandela and her husband had "never asked for any special privileges" and preferred to focus attention on the plight of other families with loved ones in jail. "She (Mrs Mandela) will spend the day quietly at home (in Soweto) alone as she has done for the past 26 years," Mr Ayob said. She would pay a normal visit to her husband later next week.

It appears that Mrs Mandela's decision to call off the prison visit by herself and 10 other close family members was prompted by the banning of a pop concert that was to have been held in honour of Mr Mandela at an open-air venue outside Johannesburg tomorrow. The Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, announced the ban on Thursday night. Some 25,000 people had been expected to attend, paying five rands a head (£1.25). The proceeds would have gone to various local charities.

The offer of the special prison visit was made at the end of June. Mrs Mandela and her family would have been allowed to stay with her husband from 9am to 3pm. This would have been in addition to the normal quota of 30 visits a year by a maximum of two people at a time, each visit lasting no more than 40 minutes, with a

prison officer present throughout.

There were renewed calls, meanwhile, from Britain and other foreign governments for the freeing of Mr Mandela as birthday greetings flooded in to South Africa from around the world.

Mr Mandela was arrested on Sunday, August 5, 1962. At the time he was operating underground as the commander of the ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), which he had founded the previous December. He ran into a police roadblock near Howick in Natal while disguised as the chauffeur of a sympathetic white friend. According to one account, his identity and whereabouts had been betrayed to the police by a local American diplomat working for the CIA.

Jailed initially for five years for incitement and leaving the country illegally, Mr Mandela, along with other leading ANC members, was sentenced to life imprisonment in the so-

called Rivonia trial of 1963-1964 on charges of high treason and sabotage.

Until his transfer to Follsmoor in 1983, Mr Mandela was held on Robben Island, the maximum security prison in Table Bay. He has now been in prison longer than most of the blacks who worship him have been alive.

The Government's propaganda department, the Bureau for Information, yesterday took the unusual step of circulating its own biography of Mr Mandela. This disputed the ANC leader's claim that he was not a communist, which he made in a famous four-hour speech from the dock during the Rivonia trial. The bureau also said that Mr Mandela, because of his advocacy of violence, did not qualify as a "political prisoner" on the definition used by Amnesty International.

Mr Mandela's trial speech, in the preparation of which he was given some editorial assistance by Anthony Sampson, then covering the trial for *The*

Observer, has become one of the sacred texts of resistance to white rule and a classic statement of the principles of black nationalism.

In it he described himself as "an African patriot" who had been "influenced by Marxist thought". But he denied being a communist, and said the political systems he admired most were those of Britain and the United States. He said the ANC had gone into alliance with the Communist Party because they both shared the immediate goal of ending white supremacy, and he cited by way of comparison the anti-Nazi wartime pact between Britain, America and the Soviet Union.

"Theoretical differences among those fighting against oppression is a luxury we cannot afford at this stage," he told the court. "What is more, for many decades Communists were the only political group in South Africa who were prepared to treat Africans as human beings and their equals; who were prepared to eat with us, talk with us, live with us and work with us."

● LONDON: Britain yesterday renewed its appeal to Pretoria for the release of Mr Mandela (Nicholas Beeston writes).

The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, said that the release of the ANC leader was "crucial to the prospects for peaceful change within South Africa" and that it would be an "important gesture" towards creating the climate for dialogue between races and suspending violence.

● TOKYO: The Japanese Government yesterday called on South Africa to release not only Mr Mandela but all other political prisoners being held in the country.

Newborn baby left in plane



Mrs Christina LoCasto, with her lawyer, Mr John Williams, listening with head bowed as she is accused of endangering her newborn baby by abandoning it on an aircraft. Mrs LoCasto, aged 24, from New York, was arrested and charged in San Francisco on Thursday after she gave birth on a cross-country flight and her baby was later found in the aircraft lavatory (Reuter reports).

She denied the charge and was released from San Mateo County Jail on bail of \$50,000 (£29,000). If convicted of child endangerment, Mrs LoCasto faces a possible six years in prison. The child, an 8lb 10oz girl, named Elizabeth by nurses, was reported in good

condition at a nearby hospital after having been found in the waste bin of the lavatory on a United Airlines DC10 when it landed at San Francisco international airport on Wednesday. Cabin cleaners heard the baby crying when they boarded the aircraft. Police said that it appeared that Mrs LoCasto had given birth in the lavatory before the jet took off, then returned to her seat. She was accompanied on the trip by her husband, Mr Louis LoCasto, aged 26, and a three-year-old daughter. Flight attendants on the six-hour flight from Newark, New Jersey, who found the lavatory in a mess locked it for the flight without finding the baby.

Armenia angered by TV criticism of clash

Moscow (Reuter) - Troops patrolled Yerevan airport yesterday after what residents described as an explosive reaction to a Soviet television film which portrayed Armenians protesting over the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute as hooligans.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Yerevan, the Armenian capital, said that indignation was running high after the film, which was broadcast after midnight on Thursday.

He denied an earlier statement by a spokesman for the official Armenpress news agency that airport workers upset by the film had closed the airport with a strike. But the national airline, Aeroflot, said all flights in and out of Yerevan had been delayed yesterday and the situation remained confused.

A spokesman for the Armenian Communist Party newspaper *Kommunist* said there had been "an explosive reaction" to the film, in which soldiers sent in to clear the airport during a two-day blockade last week said they had been battered by stones and bottles and responded in self-defence.

The *Kommunist* spokesman said: "It only interviewed troops and did not give passengers at the airport or demonstrators a chance to state their case." No Armenians were interviewed in the programme.

It was the first Soviet tele-

Moscow (Reuter) - Afghan rebels fired more than 20 rockets into a residential area of Kabul yesterday, killing 20 people and wounding 34 others, Tass said.

It was one of the most serious attacks by Mujahidin guerrillas on the Afghan capital since the Soviet troop pull-out began two months ago.

Tass said that many buildings were damaged, including a mosque. It gave no other details of the attack, but said at least five people, including three children, had been killed in rebel raids in the provinces of Paktia, Paktika and Kunar.

The attack followed reports of a stepped-up guerrilla war in eastern areas, around Kabul and near Kandahar. Fourteen people were killed in car bombings and rocket attacks on Kabul last week, according to Kabul radio.

Yerevan residents have held mass protests every day since the clashes. Some 200,000 people rallied on Thursday evening and officials predicted that the crowds would swell yesterday.

"People are not exactly delighted by the television film," the Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "I think it will be the main topic at tonight's debate." He said angry people began gathering in small groups to discuss the programme early in the day.

Yerevan residents said troops were lining the road to the airport and checking all vehicles. One woman contacted by telephone from Moscow said: "They are not admitting people who want to see passengers off."

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Swapo's peace hopes

By Nicholas Beeston

An increasing number of white Namibians, who once supported Pretoria's rule over the territory, are coming to the conclusion that independence is inevitable and beneficial, the leader of the Namibian guerrilla movement said yesterday.

At a press conference in London the secretary-general of Swapo, Mr Andimba Toivo Ja Toivo, said that discussions last month in Stockholm between his organization and 20 white Namibians revealed a growing change of allegiance in the white community. "Most whites have realized that the presence of South Africa in Namibia is not for their benefit," he said, predicting that their numbers would increase in coming months.

Commenting on the latest round of talks between Angola, Cuba, South Africa and the US on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola and South African forces from Namibia - which ended this week in New York - he said Swapo was more "optimistic than ever before" that a peaceful settlement could be found. But he served warning that unless a deal was concluded by the target date of September 29, the 10th anniversary of United Nations Resolution 435 for Namibian independence, then "we will intensify our armed struggle".

The Airbus disaster in the Gulf

Tehran fails to secure useful UN resolution

From Charles Bremner, New York

Iran's Foreign Minister, swallowing a rebuff from the United Nations Security Council over the Airbus incident, yesterday accused the Americans of behaving like a drunken driver and rejected calls for an international Gulf peacekeeping force.

Dr Ali-Akbar Velayati also listened impassively as Mr John Birch, Britain's acting Ambassador, told the Security Council of Britain's profound regret at "the appalling accident" involving Iranian airliner.

Dr Velayati told reporters Iran was still waiting for America to take responsibility for what he called its "criminal action".

It was clear yesterday that Iran had failed to persuade the Security Council to consider the kind of resolution it wanted. This would have condemned the US in the same way as a resolution that denounced the Soviet Union in the aftermath of the destruction of the South Korean airliner in September, 1983. Moscow then suffered the embarrassment of applying its veto to block the vote.

At the Council debate, Mr

Valentin Lizinsky, the acting Soviet Ambassador, renewed Moscow's demand that the US fleet leave the Gulf waters immediately.

European diplomats said Council members generally believed Vice-President George Bush had scored a points victory over Dr Velayati when both men delivered impassioned speeches in the opening debate held on Thursday.

Dr Velayati said earlier yesterday that failure by the Security Council to condemn the US would demonstrate American power over the body. "The shooting down of the airliner is a litmus test for the Security Council."

There was nothing in Mr Bush's speech that offered any comfort to Iran since Washington still refused to accept responsibility for destroying the airliner, Dr Velayati said. Iran did not just want American charity, in the form of *ex gratia* compensation. He declined to say whether Iran would allow the families to receive the money.

Behind the scenes Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, and

other officials have been using Dr Velayati's presence to try to draw Iran back into UN efforts to end the Gulf War.

He told reporters that Iran believed security in the Gulf was the responsibility of littoral states, a position that ruled out proposals by Moscow, UN officials and others to send an international naval presence.

But the Iranian minister said Iran was still open to UN efforts to organize a ceasefire. Iran has been making such vague assertions for a year since the Security Council ordered a ceasefire and Iraq agreed to comply.

Mr Birch echoed Mr Bush's view that Iran should bear some of the blame for the Airbus incident. "Had that demand of the Security Council been met, we should not be considering here today another horror born of this senseless conflict," he said.

● BAHRAIN: An American warship went to the aid of the 85,989-ton Liberian tanker Sea Victory under fire from gunboats in the Gulf yesterday but arrived well after the attackers had left, the tanker's captain said (Reuter reports).

Flight tape backs Iranian claims

New York (NYT) - The transcript of radio exchanges between air traffic controllers and the destroyed Iranian Airbus appears to support Iran's assertion that it was sending normal radar signals for a civilian aircraft and climbing from 12,000 ft to its assigned altitude of 14,000 ft when it was shot down by the US Navy.

The transcript also shows that the pilots of Flight 655 talked to three controllers on three different frequencies in the seven minutes from take-off until it was shot down, suggesting that they were unlikely to have been monitoring a separate emergency frequency on which the Pentagon says warnings were issued.

The transcript was made public at the United Nations on Thursday by Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Minister.

After the pilot of Flight 655 radioed the tower in Bandar Abbas, Iran, for permission to start taxiing, the controller relayed the request to Tehran, where flight controllers talked to controllers in the United Arab Emirates.

Dubai agreed to the altitude assignment - 14,000 ft - and the transponder code (used to enhance radar signals) and

this was relayed to the pilot. The four-digit code assigned to each flight makes the radar echo reveal information unique to that flight.

The transponder command "Squawk 6760" was confirmed routinely from the three sets of controllers to the pilot.

In the seven minutes after take-off, the pilots made the routine switch from the tower frequency to the controllers who monitor the airspace near the Bandar Abbas airport, then to the Tehran controllers who direct aircraft outside airport areas.

It was in these seven minutes that the Pentagon said the US Navy cruiser Vincennes issued seven warnings on military and civilian emergency frequencies.

In seven calls to the two flight controllers, the pilots of Flight 655 reported climbing through three different altitudes - 3,500 ft, 7,000 ft and 12,000 ft. The Vincennes reported that the plane was between 7,000 ft and 9,000 ft and descending.

According to the transcript, the aircraft's last position report was to the approach controller at 10.54 am, the moment the Vincennes fired two missiles at the aircraft.

Greece tests French connection in ferry attack

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greek security officials are investigating the possibility that the terrorist assault on the cruise ship City of Pors last Monday, which left nine dead, might have been the work of a suicide squad that could have included a Frenchman.

Mr Evangelos Yannopoulos, the Minister of Merchant Marine, yesterday said there were "indications, but nothing concrete" that a man who died at a Piraeus hospital an hour

after being brought from the rescue ships may have been a terrorist.

The minister described him as a Frenchman because of a piece of paper with French writing found on the body, but refused to name him.

Hospital sources said the man, aged 23 and probably a student, was wearing a khaki shirt similar to one that witnesses claimed was worn by one of the attackers.

The minister said investigators were exploring the

possibility that Mohammed Zozad, the young Arab identified as one of the assailants from photographs taken on the ship, may also be among the dead. Officials refused to comment on a report that Zozad had been arrested and was being questioned.

The Piraeus coroner's office confirmed that only four of the nine dead had been identified: the first mate, a Danish man, a Swedish woman, and Isabelle Bismuth, aged 21, the Frenchwoman that police at

first described as a terrorist. Four bodies are badly charred. Two of them are men, one of whom may be a Hungarian who has been reported missing. There was the body of another woman, a severely charred body whose gender could not be determined, and a gruesome collection of severed limbs.

The "troika" of the Trevi group, the European Community's security watchdog, met in Athens yesterday to discuss terrorism. The group, consist-

ing of senior security officials from West Germany, Greece and Spain, is believed to have discussed the attack last Monday.

However, it is understood the meeting focused on an alert by Interpol this week which, according to a Dutch newspaper, warned that five Arab terrorists, identified by name and passport number, planned to hijack an Arab passenger plane between London and a capital in North Africa.

Nicaraguan sugar firm to fight state takeover

From David Gollob, Managua

Political, rather than economic, motives determined the Nicaraguan Government's decision to expropriate the San Antonio sugar mill, the general manager of Nicaragua Sugar Estates told journalists in Managua. Nicaragua Sugar owns the mills and is the country's biggest private company.

"By taking this step the Government is moving more towards a leftist regime," Señor Carlos Pellas said. He added that he would fight the move in court.

The Sandinista Government expropriated the mill on Wednesday "in the national interest," arguing that mismanagement, decapitalization and neglect had caused a

dramatic fall in production of what was a key export.

Señor Jaime Wheelock, Agrarian Reform Minister, said: "This is not a political move, and not a move against the Pellas family. It is a question of saving the mill."

The Pellas family, one of Nicaragua's oldest and wealthiest, are big shareholders in Nicaragua Sugar. Unlike many of the country's aristocratic families, they were allowed to keep most of their assets after the 1979 revolution.

Considered traitors by the 90,000 Nicaraguan exile community in Miami, the Pellas family took Sandinista promises to maintain a mixed economy at face value and became the most impressive symbol of the coexistence of the private sec-

tor and the Marxist-influenced Government. Señor Pellas said the family felt it had been "stabbed in the back".

He added: "Whatever the reasons, this is definitely a signal to the private sector that a new era has started in this country."

Señor Pellas produced what he said were government statistics showing that sugar production had fallen at the six state-owned mills as well, which were operating at 36 per cent of capacity, while the San Antonio mill was operating at 44 per cent of capacity. "We're being accused of something that is not true," he said.

The mill was destroyed in the revolution, but the company rebuilt it, and by 1982 production had

returned to its pre-revolution level of 2.7 million bags a year, more than half of Nicaragua's total production.

Señor Pellas said production had declined after 1984 because the Government had stopped allowing the company to keep a share of hard currency earnings from export sales in order to replace machinery.

The company needs \$6 million (about £3.75 million) annually to keep the plant in optimum running order. However, since 1984 it had received only \$2 million a year, and every purchase had to be authorized by a slow-moving bureaucracy, Señor Pellas said.

The company will challenge the expropriation in a special court, known as the Agrarian Tribunal. However, the tribunal is run by

Señor Wheelock's ministry. "The judge is also a party to the dispute," Señor Pellas said.

"We have maybe a 20 to 30 per cent chance." There is no other right of appeal.

The expropriation follows the expulsion of the US Ambassador and seven other US diplomats, the arrest and sentencing of four opposition leaders for inciting public disorder, and the temporary shutdown of opposition media.

Although the expropriation is unlikely to be connected, these moves suggest the Government has decided to adopt a tougher line on the economic as well as the political front, and is reverting to some of the Marxist policies that critics blame for the sorry state of the economy.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Teamsters name new president

Washington (AP) - Mr William McCarthy, the senior official of the Teamsters in the north-east United States for two decades, yesterday succeeded the late Jackie Presser as president of America's largest trade union. The Teamsters' 17-member general executive picked Mr McCarthy, aged 69, of Boston, in preference to its secretary-treasurer, Mr Weldon Mathis, who was named acting president by Mr Presser on May 4.

While several of the union's 16 regional vice-presidents had jockeyed for position to succeed Mr Presser, the race had narrowed to Mr McCarthy and Mr Mathis in the last week. Mr McCarthy, who has a reputation of being a tough negotiator with a quick temper, will serve out his predecessor's five-year term, which expires in 1991, when the union holds its next international convention.

The Teamsters - which is known officially as the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America - represents workers in Canada as well as in the US, and has 1.6 million members. Mr Presser had been president since 1983.

Bishop is accused

Nairobi (AP) - Kenyan MPs accused an Anglican bishop of having links with a missionary relief agency used by South Africa to destabilize the country, and urged his church to defrock him. Nairobi newspapers reported.

Bishop Alexander Muge, who was barred from visiting his diocese after criticizing the Government's relief distribution, dismissed the allegations and invited the Government to establish who was correct. The Church of the Province of Kenya said it had confidence in Bishop Muge, who also alleged massive rigging during March elections.

War crimes hearing

Vancouver (Reuter) - The Canadian Government said that it would call 50 witnesses, 30 of them from The Netherlands, in an attempt to revoke the citizenship of a convicted Dutch-born Nazi collaborator who now lives in Vancouver. Mr Arnold Fradkin, a federal war crimes lawyer, said that hearings to take evidence against Jacob Luijckens, a retired botany professor at the University of British Columbia, would be held in The Netherlands and perhaps also in Israel this year. Luijckens, aged 69, was convicted of collaboration in 1948 after being tried in absentia by a Dutch court.

Olympic peace plea

Seoul (Reuter) - A new Seoul-based peace movement called yesterday for a moratorium on war and terrorism during the 1988 Olympic Games. The "Seoul Assembly of Olympians", which was formed this week by priests, businessmen, academics and Red Cross officials, said that it was sending a petition for peace to heads of state. Nobel Peace Prize winners, and prominent personalities in human rights, religion and the arts.

Former Doe ally held

Monrovia (Reuter) - Men in military uniform have ransacked the home of former Colonel Larry Bortch, once a senior ally of President Doe of Liberia, right, and taken him away for questioning. Relatives said he was taken on Wednesday, the day the Government says security forces shot and killed Nicholas Podier - a Doe supporter and former vice president in exile since 1986 - accusing him of leading a group of anti-Government rebels.



Thais seize weapons

Bangkok (AP) - Thai officials have seized hundreds of weapons, including M16 and AK rifles, hand grenades, and 10,413 rounds of ammunition, in a nationwide crackdown intended to ensure law and order for the July 24 general elections, police said yesterday.

Most of the weapons were seized in Chantaburi, Prachinburi and Kanchanaburi provinces in Thailand's troubled border areas with Cambodia and Burma, a police official said. A task force was formed in April to crack down on holders of illegal weapons.

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Strange new world arriving in clouds of dust

A remote Himalayan village faces an unfamiliar challenge as the outside world arrives at its doorstep. Victor Zorza and Venu Sandal continue their series.

The unnatural sound emptied the village as speedily as the sight of hostile warriors once used to do. Men, women and children poured out of wood-and-stone huts, racing helter-skelter down the mountain-side. Startled old folk peered out of windows.

When the village is at peace, its sounds — the tinkling of cowbells, the clatter of horses' hooves on stony paths, the laughter of children at play — are as natural as the voice of the wind. At dawn the drummer rouses the village gods, and strikes up at intervals during the day as priests

perform the temple ceremonies. At night he drums a farewell to the gods.

On this summer afternoon, sheep and goats, cows and mules, bolted at the unfamiliar sound as the first bus ever to brave the new approach to the village laboured up the bumpy, boulder-strewn track, all zigzags and perilous hairpin bends. Trailing clouds of dust, the bus honked at the excited villagers charging towards it. In the terraced fields peasants dropped their work to join the mad rush.

The villagers began speculating about the bus as soon as the track was carved out of the hillside. The historic event would link their ancient community to the modern world: would the bus service end centuries of deprivation? Or would it destroy the time-tested ties of mutual help, the

age-old fabric of self-sufficiency which enabled them to wrest a bare living from the unyielding soil?

The mountains now echoed with shouts of welcome as people closed in on the wheezing old vehicle. But the two most respected men in the village did not join the boisterous crowd. Nain Singh the headman and Jagatram his business partner stood back, tense and silent. Several villagers, taken aback by so unenthusiastic a response, stopped in their tracks.

Lower down, exuberant villagers surrounded the bus, forcing it to stop. Children in tatters clambered all over it; curious adults marvelled at the heat radiating from the engine and patted the tyres. Old men waited above, laughing and exchanging comments. "It's worth living to a



ripe old age, isn't it," said a village patriarch. "Just to see the impossible happen? Who would have thought that we could reach town in a few hours, instead of two days' walking?"

When the new road arrived, most villagers dreamt of riches. Nain Singh and Jagatram, who had earlier formed a business partnership to provide the local poor with employment, each built his own tea-house for the outsiders who would, surely, be passing through the village. There would be custom enough for both. They would work together to make the

village a trading centre, exchanging its potatoes, wool, walnuts, for goods from town.

They now stood outside their new tea-shacks. But their eyes were not on the bus: they watched one another, their faces set.

As the bus crept into view they began brewing tea in huge kettles; when it stopped, each unleashed his followers, urging them to reach it first. Both groups grabbed the driver and the conductor, pushing and dragging the bewildered heroes of the day in opposite directions, towards the competing tea-shacks. Other villagers gaped in amazement. Were Nain Singh and Jagatram vying for the honour of being first? Or was this the beginning of a feud?

Nain Singh, the headman, confident of victory, was already pouring tea into cups.

His friends hoisted the driver and conductor shoulder-high and carried them in triumph to his tea-shack. The shouting and the hubbub were all at Nain Singh's. At the other tea-house, silent and deserted, Jagatram stood by a steaming kettle, a row of empty cups laid out in front, his brows knit.

For the villagers the coming of the bus was a good omen, a harbinger of the development they craved. But was it worth the price? The bus could bring prosperity, the fulfilment of hopes and dreams. Or, some were asking anxiously, would it split the partnership and, with it, the community?

The bitter feuds which rent the village in the past had deprived poor families of work in the landlords' fields. Forced to borrow repeatedly at high rates of interest to

stave off starvation, the poorest villagers had eventually surrendered their freedom, becoming bonded serfs in order to work off their mounting debts. But it was a dozen years since anyone in the village had been faced with the choice between acute hunger and bondage.

With the arrival of the bus, would they have to choose again?

The article placed by the introductory note to last week's column in a large village on the Ganges comes in fact from a small village high up in the mountains, with about 60-70 huts and 300-400 inhabitants.

© Victor Zorza & Venu Sandal, 1988

Next Saturday: The village decides to hit out

Election fillip for Colombo leader

Colombo — Sri Lanka's ruling United National Party won three of four by-elections, losing one seat to the main opposition group, the Freedom Party (Vijitha Yapa writes).

The victories are a big help to President Jayawardene, who is said to be considering seeking a third term in presidential elections to be held by January.

The UNP retained seats in Katugampola, Welimada and Kekarawa, and lost Ratnapura. Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike, the Freedom Party leader, claimed that the Government had unashamedly used the state's power to win, and had detained her supporters during the campaign.

Bangladeshis boycott ballot

Dhaka — Voters in the southern Bangladesh town of Farshuram refused to show up at polling stations to elect a mayor because of "ballot fatigue" (Ahmad Fazl writes).

None of the 8,000 registered turned out for the third try to elect a mayor in two weeks. Two earlier polls were cancelled after rigging allegations.

Wife's killer

Harare (Reuters) — Sheila Hove, the wife of Mr Richard Hove, the Zimbabwe Minister of Mines, was shot dead after an argument with the manager of the family farm, who then killed himself, state television reported.

Lethal blast

Addis Ababa (Reuters) — A rebel mine blew up a bus, killing 34 people and injuring 39 others, 55 miles south of Asmara in northern Etopia.

Boy survivor

Caracas (AP) — A boy, aged five, was the sole survivor of 11 passengers and crew when a two-engine aircraft crashed in southern Venezuela.

Kidnap pledge

Panama City (Reuters) — The Colombian M 19 guerrilla group said it would free Seltor Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, a kidnapped former presidential candidate, by July 29.

Kaunda again

Lusaka (AP) — The ruling United National Independence Party of Zambia named President Kaunda as its sole candidate for presidential elections later this year.

Triple first

Cape Town (AFP) — A previously childless and prematurely menopausal woman made world medical history by giving birth to test-tube triplets.

Vintage spirit

Ceres, California (AP) — Sherin Youssef Kuloob, who celebrated her 116th birthday, still enjoys a daily shot or two of whiskey, according to relatives who claim she is the oldest person in the world.

US and China vow to block comeback by Khmer Rouge

By Catherine Sampson

The American Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, held talks in Peking yesterday with the senior Chinese leader, Mr Deng Xiaoping, with Mr Shultz saying afterwards that both countries had put forward "rather similar views" on avoiding a Khmer Rouge comeback in Cambodia.

Mr Shultz had earlier held talks with other members of the Chinese leadership. These discussions were also dominated by the increasing efforts to negotiate peace in Cambodia during the unilateral withdrawal of the estimated 120,000 Vietnamese troops that invaded the country in 1978 to end the three-year reign of terror by the Pol Pot regime.

The US and its allies in South-East Asia are concerned that the Khmer Rouge, the strongest of the three resistance factions fighting the Vietnamese-backed Government in Phnom Penh and backed by Chinese arms, will attempt to step into the power vacuum left by the departing Vietnamese.

But they received further reassurance from the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Qian Qichen, who emphasised after separate talks with Mr Shultz that China did not support the return of the Khmer Rouge to a dominant role in Cambodia. According to officials, Mr Qian also indicated that some senior Khmer Rouge leaders might resign from the resistance coalition, suggesting that Pol Pot would not be expected to have any part in a future government.

He also said that China foresaw a potential role for an international peacekeeping force in the country. Such statements are calculated to allay fears of America's allies in the region, and indeed Mr Shultz was cautiously optimistic after

coming to a "very broad agreement on certain aspects" of the Cambodian issue.

Mr Shultz said both countries were pressing for a total pull-out of Vietnamese troops and that both viewed Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who in an apparent bargaining ploy resigned this week from the resistance coalition, as the central figure in any future Cambodian government.

While Mr Deng Xiaoping and Mr Shultz praised publicly what they described as the steady improvement of Sino-US relations during the Reagan Administration, of-

icials said that the sale of Chinese arms to the Middle East was also discussed. It remains a thorny issue. Mr Shultz said he had "a very good exchange" with Mr Qian during their three-hour meeting which had covered the proliferation of weapons sales to developing countries. But the US Secretary of State was perhaps less satisfied with the results of talks. He failed to secure a promise from Peking to halt ballistic missile sales, with the Chinese claiming that their only ballistic missile sales had been to Saudi Arabia.

More than 100 US congressmen sent a letter to Mr Shultz on Thursday asking him to warn China, the world's fifth biggest arms exporter, that "indiscriminate" arms sales to the Middle East would jeopardise US technological and military co-operation. Mr Shultz himself does not favour threats of less co-operation. But his most pointed public statement on the matter was made in a banquet speech. "It is ironic," he said, "that just as the major powers are making progress in getting their arms competition under some control, the developing world is increasingly burdened by this flow of advanced weaponry."

US officials understand that China has sold its CSS-2 missile to Saudi Arabia and is already marketing the shorter-range M9 missile in the region, where its past customers include both Iran and Iraq. Potential clients for the shorter-range missile are said to be Syria, Iran, Libya and Pakistan.

Mr Qian reportedly told Mr Shultz that China sold only defensive weapons which would contribute to peace and regional stability. However, a US official said that the Chinese had also told Mr Shultz that they would consider an American proposal to hold talks on curbing the spread of ballistic missiles.

According to US figures, Peking sold about \$2 billion (£1.18 billion) worth of arms last year. In summing up the two-day visit by the US Secretary of State, Mr Deng declared that while there were still some problems between the two countries, "we should bring our relationship to a higher plane in the interests of peace and the interests of the people of the world."

Mr Shultz, for his part, assured Mr Deng of the strong support in the US for improved ties with China, no matter who was to succeed President Reagan in the November elections.

Deng's unexpected hand of friendship



Mr Deng Xiaoping, the senior Chinese leader, jokingly offering his hand to an out-of-view US Secret Service agent in Peking's Great Hall of the People yesterday to the obvious delight of the American Secretary of State, Mr George

Shultz, who was ending a two-day visit to China. Mr Deng, who turns 64 next month, first shook hands with Mr Shultz and his senior aides as they arrived for a meeting, then the Chinese leader started everyone by approaching one of Mr

Shultz's security agents and shaking his hand as well (Reuters reports). The agent, Mr Bill Ziegler, who normally wears the stony-faced look of his profession, was seen to blush and erupt into laughter at Mr Deng's impromptu gesture.

Taunt to monk triggers riot in Burma

Bangkok (Reuters) — Two people were killed and shops and a school wrecked, when the northern Burmese city of Taunggyi was hit by a third day of rioting on Wednesday, Rangoon radio said.

The disturbance broke out the week before an extraordinary congress of the ruling party to discuss economic and other reforms after eruptions of violence in several cities during the last five months in which more than 200 people have been killed.

The official radio, in a dispatch monitored in Bangkok on Thursday evening, said fighting between police and groups of up to 200 rioters

that began on Monday continued on Wednesday, despite an overnight curfew imposed on Tuesday.

The disturbances in Taunggyi started after a minor taunt of a Buddhist monk that triggered fighting between mobs of up to 300 and police, who eventually opened fire. One man died on Tuesday.

On Wednesday two men were stabbed to death and 11 others injured in clashes after a crowd gathered outside a police station demanding the release of those detained on previous days.

The report said they rampaged through the streets, destroying an orphanage

school and five related buildings and damaging rice shops, tea shops and bicycle repair shops. Travellers recently returned from Burma said there was an outward appearance of calm in the cities, but there was tension brewing beneath the surface.

Last Saturday the military-led socialist Government lifted overnight curfews in Rangoon, Pegu, Prome and Moulmein imposed on June 21 after rioting in which diplomats said more than 100 people were killed.

The country of 38 million, suffering from sharply declining living standards and repression of all forms of

opposition, was also shaken by clashes in Rangoon in March in which dozens died after troops opened fire.

The authorities have sought a more conciliatory approach in the last week, releasing those detained in March and June and allowing dismissed students to apply for readmission. They called an extraordinary congress of the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party for July 23 to reform the economy and make changes in the party.

Western diplomats said there were likely to be some senior personnel changes and a loosening of state control of the economy.

Japan boosts spending on foreign aid



Mr Miyazawa: New budget guidelines laid down.

Tokyo (Reuters) — Japan announced its biggest increase in government spending for six years yesterday to meet international demands that it give more to poorer nations and to strengthen its armed forces.

Budget guidelines announced by Mr Kiichi Miyazawa, the Finance Minister, and approved at a Cabinet meeting said there would be a 9.4 per cent increase in overseas development assistance in the year starting next April.

The rich Western nations have demanded that Japan use more of its riches to help the developing world. But Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Prime

Minister, surprised the group at a summit in Toronto last month by taking the initiative and pledging that Japan would lead a campaign to help some of the poorest countries to wipe out their debt burden.

Political analysts have linked Japan's new confidence in its ability to set international policy to its realization that it cannot for ever shelter under the wing of the US armed forces.

Mr Miyazawa said the 1989-1990 budget would allow military spending to grow up to 6.1 per cent.

Aid and defence are among only six special categories to

escape rules under which departments must cut spending by at least 10 per cent.

The Japanese Government has been trying for several years to cut back a huge national debt. For this reason, moves to reflate the Japanese economy by extra government spending, which featured this year and last, will be cut out next year.

The budget is expected to be completed toward the end of the calendar year. The ceiling would allow total spending to grow 9.10 billion yen (about £4 billion) to about 33,890 billion yen in 1989-1990.

Workers' burden: Japanese

workers now earn as much as, or more than, workers from the richest countries in the world but their private lives are as poor as ever, according to a report released yesterday.

The Labour Ministry said many workers remained burdened by financial debt, had four times longer to travel to work than West Germans, and no time to enjoy life. In 1986 the average Japanese worked 2,150 hours a year, compared with 1,655 hours for West Germans.

The ministry said workers must be allowed more time to enjoy their lives, their families, and their freedoms.

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Saintly oasis of peace in a hostile land

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

They are an unlikely partnership — Assad, the Muslim plumber from Bethany, and Gregory, the Christian former soldier from Yugoslavia. Yet between them they are preserving and winning back from the Judean desert the ancient Greek Orthodox monastery of St George of Koziba.

It is a perfect, picturesque example of a remote desert monastery. Coach loads of tourists come to wander at its foot, remoteness, climbing the barren hill to the cross above the winding military road that snakes over the precipitous landscape north of the main road from Jerusalem to the Dead Sea.

Far below, clinging to the sheer rock face of the Wadi Kelt, the buildings, topped with powder-blue domes, look like a child's model. A green slash of vegetation and soaring palms along the dried-up wadi below the monastery looks as cool and unobtainable as a mirage.

2,000 years ago St Joachim is said to have spent 40 days in the cave bewailing the barrenness of his wife Anne, before an angel told him she would give birth to the Virgin Mary.

Here hundreds, perhaps thousands, of hermits came to live in the caves that pocketed the sheer sides of the wadi, meeting at the monastery once or twice a week to share the litany.

The bones of many are stacked in a cave below the monastery and 14 skulls are displayed in long reliquary boxes in the tiny icon-encrusted Chapel of St John and St George.

The 14 died when the Persians captured the monastery in AD 614 and killed everyone in sight. Monks today are in even shorter supply than money. Most of the black-robed, black-capped ancient monks are not fit enough to maintain the structure, tend the gardens, feed the chickens and recite the litany.

Nearly all the manual work fell on the broad shoulders of Father Gregory, a grizzled, bearded, well-built man who personifies the adage: "Laborare est orare."

At sun-up he was down in the wadi feeding the little grey donkey, the

monastery's only transport. An hour later he was up with the chickens in the deep, wide cave below the summit of the cliff. He was watering the gardens, cooking the lunch, saying his prayers in a continual happy act of worship that still could not hold at bay the punishing advance of the desert.

The trees were drying up, the vegetables were not growing, the walls were crumbling, a cross had fallen off the highest dome when, 2 1/2 years ago, Assad the plumber came to call. He was mesmerized by the calm and the holy men. He returned to visit with his wife and family. He offered to help and the offer was gladly accepted.

Weekend after weekend, Assad toiled in the sun, building up walls, installing a drip-feed irrigation system fed by the monastery's spring.

Slowly the green returned, the trees revived, the oasis was no longer a memory. The monastery of old men breathed with a young spirit.

Father Gregory is in charge of tourists, who pant down the steep path from the old vaulted cistern by the roadside. He enforces the sign, posted by Israeli military authorities, which insists on decent dress and behaviour.

He interprets that as meaning guns

are not allowed. One day last summer an off-duty Israeli soldier arrived with his gun across his back. Father Gregory told him firmly that the monastery was a place of peace and the gun could not come in. The soldier tried to push his way past and Father Gregory grabbed the weapon and flung it into the wadi below. "You can come in now," he told the astonished soldier. "Enter in peace."

When the tourists leave in the afternoon heat, the monastery shrinks back into itself. The great outside gates are closed and it becomes a fortress. For security reasons, the monks do not reveal their numbers.

One night thieves came and noisily began dismantling the big metal wheel in the mill in the bottom of the wadi. The monks threw bottles of water at them, but they were not deterred and carried away the huge piece of scrap.

Cut off, the monks are at peace. They watch the birds swoop in the air currents near their balconies and hear the water rushing by in its aqueduct.

Assad is still a Muslim, a frequent worshipper in work. "We all have one God," he says. "Christians, Muslims and Jews, we all have one God, and we will meet Him together one day."

TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

This column has always had a soft spot for lunatic activities, so today I would like to wish good luck and godspeed to a bunch of people who will swim from Richmond to Blackfriars Bridge tomorrow. Among the dangers they face are a four-knot tide, moored barges and a sewage workers' occupational disease caused by rats. No one can say the organizers are over-glamourizing the event.

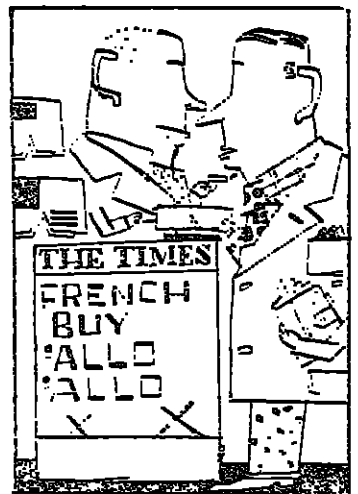
The swim is simultaneously a celebration of the improved cleanliness of the Thames — "the cleanest metropolitan river in the world" says the Thames Water Authority — and a stunt to point out that more needs to be done. The problem is the Victorian drainage system that carries both rainwater and sewage. Heavy rain propels vast quantities of filth into the river; it happens about once a year, and when it does the water at Battersea is 200 times dirtier than normal.

Doctors have advised against the swim, warning particularly of the dangers of open cuts and of (ugh) swallowing the water. The organizer, John Perry, wants swimmers to keep in touch and report back if they get any stomach or eye problems. The entire event has a kind of quixotry about it that makes ski-jumping look a comfortable option.

Faithful readers will recall the prep school match mentioned in this space last week: how Cranleigh under-11s scored 230 for 0 declared, and how Worth replied with 35 all out. Jeremy Dowling, who coaches Worth, writes to me with a spirited defence of his lads: how they have, in fact, been improving steadily throughout the season. In their first match they were bowled out for 16, of which 12 were extras. As things got better they reached the dizzy heights of 124 for 9 and actually had the hubris to declare. (Sad to say, their opponents were up to the challenge.) But Worth did win a match this season, a real nail-biter against Leamington. They bowled out the opposition for 43, and made 44 for 9 in reply. I send my best wishes to Worth, in the knowledge that it is from the players like them, rather than the century-scoring openers of Cranleigh, that the Tewin irregulars of the future will spring.

The National Portrait Gallery is to take on its third cricketer. The first was W.G. Grace; the second that rather peculiar LP cover-style portrait of Ian Botham. Now they are about to give us the lordly Isaac Vivian Alexander Richards, captain of the West Indies and a fair batsman to boot. The painter is William Bowyer, RA and former off-spinner, who was commissioned last year to paint Lord's during the bicentenary game. The picture has loads of cricketing exuberance, and not a little of Richards's disdain, as he whacks a ball contemptuously to leg. It is good to see that the gallery does not feel that sporting matters and sporting people are beneath intellectual contempt — good, too, to see a Caribbean cult hero in the gallery, not a class over-represented in official art.

BARRY FANTONI



Remind me, does that mean they've got taste or they haven't?

Lord's, famous for its long tradition of misogyny, has appointed a new assistant to the curator, Stephen Green — and she is unquestionably female. Her name is Glennie Williams, and she comes into the job armed with awesome scholarly qualifications. She took first-class honours in sports studies at Sheffield, and went on to take an M. Phil in the social development of sport, using cricket as a case study. When her grant ran out she wrote to the first-class counties asking about a job, and Lord's was smart enough to make her an offer. She was bitten by the cricket bug during the 1975 World Cup, and her historian's interest in the game followed.

Our sporting hooligans, I learn, are not a late 20th century phenomenon but heirs to a long and grand tradition. A gentleman named Dennis Hayes writes to me quoting *English Literature Before Chaucer*, by Michael Swanton: "Despite regular ecclesiastical and at least sporadic legal prohibition, periods of prolonged peace might be enlivened by attendance at tournaments — not yet a leisurely series of individual jousts, but a mass mêlée which differed little from real war. There was little that a modern Englishman might recognize as 'fair play', let alone chivalry, with sides often unevenly matched and a high premium on cunning. The stakes were high; large ransoms might be raised; at times the vanquished lost all they possessed, while those fatally wounded were theoretically at least, denied a Christian burial. With a notoriously hooligan element present among the supporters, events were always liable to turn nasty."

Along with cricketers the baseball memorabilia market explodes. Its bedrock is that American institution, the bubblegum card of baseball's greats. Gary Sawatzki, a Detroitian who makes his living from baseball junk, says: "Prices are getting so high that baseball cards are more for the speculators than the real fans, who are now going for the oddball items. It's more for fun — you know, like cards used to be." Oddball items are things like hoodwappers emblazoned with a player's face. At a recent sale, one chap bought a 57 cent milk carton portraying Carl Yastrzemski of the Boston Red Sox. It cost him \$25.

Elections can never make everybody happy. Yet, in the manner of a children's birthday party, the Kensington by-election offered some small reward to each of the serious participants.

The Conservatives held on to a marginal seat, keeping the anti-government swing down to 5.6 per cent, the lowest figure in any by-election since 1982. Labour came near to winning a constituency that has never been theirs. And they increased their vote by 4.8 per cent — an improvement they have exceeded in only three by-elections in 15 years.

The divided Alliance forces, despite their troubles, held on to nearly all the 17 per cent of the vote they secured in 1987. The Democrats, beating the Owenites by more than two to one, mildly advanced their claim to be the only serious third force. As for the Owenites, they just saved their deposit, and a two-to-one defeat by the Democrats does not mean an absolute end to their credibility.

The Greens, admittedly with a mere 372 votes, have the satisfaction of being the only party to see their vote increase in absolute numbers as well as in percentage, a real achievement considering there were ten other fringe candidates.

And the statisticians can be happy to point out that if there were to be a uniform nationwide

swing matching the movements in Kensington, there would be a hung Parliament: 318 Conservatives, 294 Labour, 14 Democrats, 1 SDP and 23 others.

However, a by-election which offers consolation to all can hardly offer a full triumph to any. In this odd constituency, crowded with inaccessible voters (or non-voters) the contest was unmemorable: the candidates were worthy but not outstanding and there were no serious gaffes. The media, taking the result for granted, sponsored no opinion polls (which, given the close outcome, might have raised some interest). Moreover, there were other, much bigger news stories running during the last fortnight.

But that does not mean that all is stable on the electoral scene. The Tories, it is true, are faring well in the polls. Not since 1960 has a government been ahead in Gallup's rating 13 months after winning a general election.

Yet 1960 offers a warning. In 1959, as in 1987, a Conservative

government had won a third successive victory. The disarray of a disappointed opposition and the growth of prosperity offered the Tories an easy course. Then the climate was transformed. In 1962 there came Orpington, the pay pause and the "night of the long knives"; in 1965 there was de Gaulle's snub, the Profumo affair and the end of the Macmillan era. The Tories today may enjoy an enviable lead in the polls but in politics that can never be certain.

Currently it is easy to paint an optimistic scenario for the Tories. Unemployment continues to fall, inflation stays under control, prosperity increases. Labour fails to get its act together. And the Democrats, under the unexciting Alan Beit or the unreliable Paddy Ashdown, cannot see off the Owenite confusion and present themselves as a credible alternative, offering a challenge comparable to that after Crosby or Hillhead in 1980-82 or after Ryedale and Greenwich in 1986-87.

But what if, through domestic mismanagement or, more probably, through international events beyond British control, the economy falters and the indices on jobs, on real incomes, on the balance of payments turn sour for the Government? What if there are new self-inflicted wounds like the Westland affair? What if Mrs Thatcher goes? What happens then to the Tories' poll prospects?

There is a basic principle in politics. You can't beat somebody with nobody. If the Conservative reign is to be ended, there must be a realistic alternative. A Conservative split can be discounted. The Tories have their differences but they also display an extraordinary cohesiveness, a power-seeking pragmatism. They will be defeated only by a revived Labour Party that actually looks like an alternative government.

One often hears that the Labour Party, shackled to a cumbersome union movement, with so many of its activists

committed to socialist impossibilities, and with perpetual challenges to its leadership, can now never appeal to enough of prosperous middle Britain to gain a majority of seats. But after two general elections at its record low vote of 28 per cent and 31 per cent, Labour has now crept up to over 40 per cent in the polls despite all its recent troubles.

There are grounds for scepticism but there is little in the present policy rethink to frighten ordinary people. If the leadership can hold steady and offer an impression of confidence and competence as it sees off its current challenges, it is quite conceivable that Labour will appear, a year or so hence, as a plausible potential government, ready to take full advantage of any Conservative slippage.

There are, however, a lot of "ifs" in that scenario. So, if Labour shows its customary skill in making the worst of its opportunities, is there any other alternative? The Democrats are probably

going to marginalize the Owenite SDP fairly soon (though Dr Owen, like Enoch Powell or Lloyd George, will be around for a long time as a brooding presence).

Paddy Ashdown, should he become leader next week (which seems likely), may have the substance as well as the charisma to carry the party back to the high ground the Alliance seemed to hold, fleetingly, at several points in the last decade: a realistic escape from the Tory-Labour dualism. It may not be a very plausible scenario. Can it really ever be glad confident morning again? But dissatisfaction with those in power, if it develops, must find an outlet. And so a third-party breakthrough, at least to a balance-of-power situation, must remain a possibility.

Kensington hardly helps at all as we try to see forward to 1991. It leaves the odds much where they were: say, a 65 per cent likelihood of a fourth Conservative victory, a 30 per cent chance of a Labour win, and a 15 per cent chance of a hung Parliament. What is quite certain is that those probabilities, however realistic they may be today, will change as the months go by. Perhaps the next by-election will tell us more.

The author is a fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

David Butler seeks omens for 1991 in the by-election result

Kensington's hazy pointers

Lewis Lapham

Hail the faceless candidate

New York
I n New York last spring, Christie's sold at auction, for \$26,400, an idea for a drawing. Not the drawing itself. Nothing so crass as an object or a design on paper, but the right to render the drawing in a space eight feet square. The buyer of the work in question, "Ten Thousand Lines Ten Inches Long, Covering a Wall Evenly", received a sales receipt and a set of instructions not unlike the page in a primary school colouring book inviting a child to connect the dots.

The buyer retained the right to choose the texture and placement of the wall — stucco, fibreboard, facing south in the library, etc — but it was strongly recommended that he hire (at his own considerable expense) the artist's own draftsman to draw the lines in their proper width and placement.

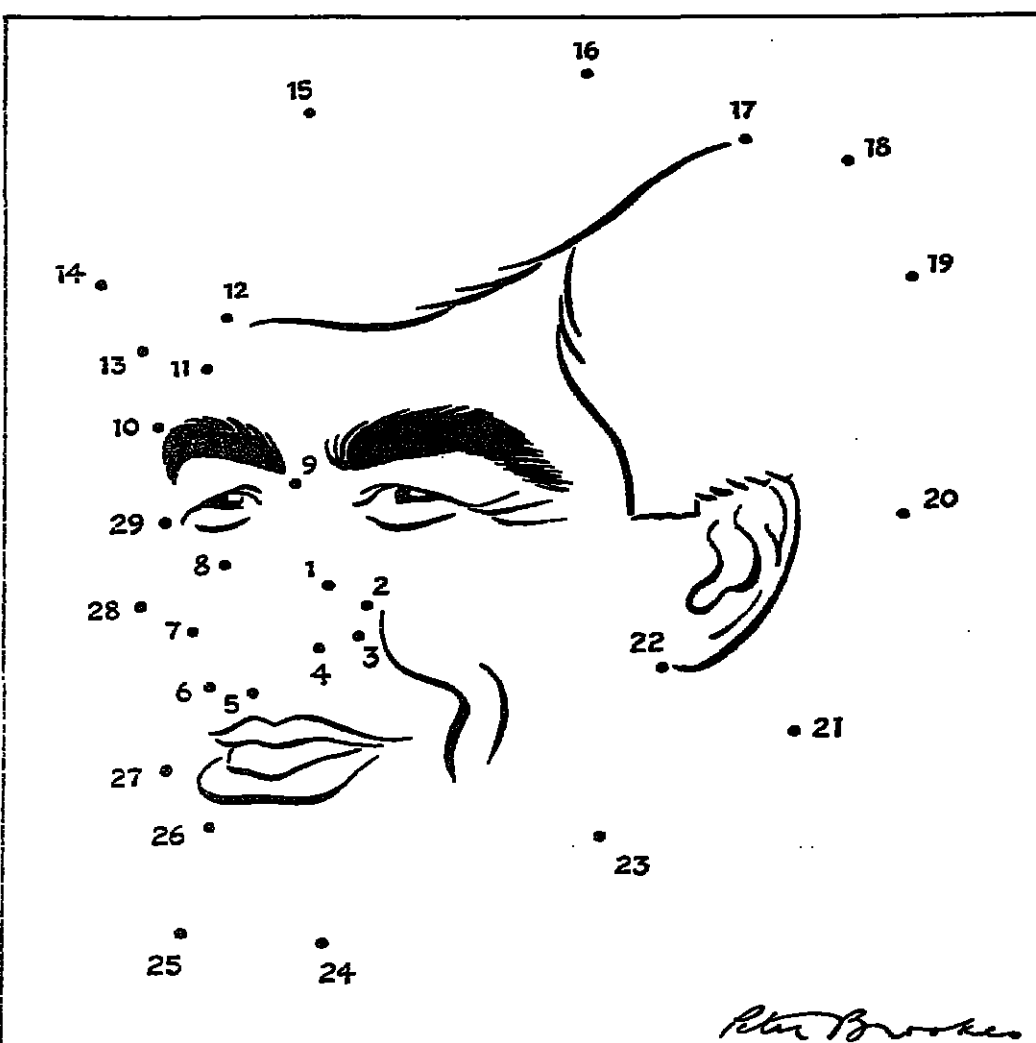
The artist, Sol LeWitt, expounded the thesis of conceptual art as long ago as 1969: "Ideas can be works of art — they are in a chain of development that may eventually find some form. All ideas need not be physical." The observation is neither new nor profound. An unkind critic might go so far as to say that it was both fatuous and banal, on a par with the discovery that sailors have been known to die by drowning. But the unkind critic would miss the point and fail to appreciate LeWitt as a prophet. Within the span of a single generation LeWitt's minimalist aesthetic has come to define the character of post-modernist politics.

At about the same time that LeWitt announced the arrival of conceptual art, the national political conventions became empty spaces in which the media could stage their own romantic theories of politics. The politicians learned — much to their relief and delight — that they didn't have to say anything that might be confused with thought or meaning, and the media were left free to fill in the silences with whatever shows of patriotic cant could still excite the momentary interest of a bored electorate. Having bought the rights to render the conventions, the media could make ideas for drawings entitled "Ten Thou-

sand Images Ten Seconds Long, Covering a Screen Evenly". The emphasis on pageantry reflects both the loss of audience and the current state of the American political argument. The argument has nothing to do with the question of justice or the idea of government. Because it is an argument about the awarding of money and privilege within the relatively small class of people that can buy access to the law, and because the Democratic and Republican parties so closely resemble each other in their allegiance to the imperatives of the national security state that only the columnists paid to do so can tell them apart, the larger American public no longer cares very much about the results of a presidential election.

Mindful of these difficulties, the Democratic Party has gone to considerable trouble to arrange matters in Atlanta for the convenience of the national media. Although the television networks have said that they will bestow only two hours of prime time on each of the convention's four nights, Atlanta expects upwards of 14,000 print and broadcast journalists to camp in the city next week — outnumbering the politicians three to one and estimated to spend, in five days, at least \$6 million on their travel expenses. All the best seats in the Omni Arena have been assigned to the media (i.e. to the ladies and gentlemen of the fourth estate expected to connect the dots), and the Democratic National Committee has allotted \$2 million for the stage design, the lights and the hiring of the paid entertainment.

As a further kindness the Democrats nominated the candidate who most closely approximates the minimalist *beau idéal* of a blank canvas. During the long months of the primary campaign, Michael Dukakis managed to say nothing that conceivably could be classified under the subversive headings of controversy. He reiterated his firm belief in the family and the flag, and he confined himself to only two maxims — "Good jobs at good wages," and "American know-how is back."



By nature an obliging bureaucrat — cautious, fluent in the idiom of empty abstraction, utterly lacking in conviction, the kind of man who could as easily administer a bank or a prison — Governor Dukakis can be relied upon to do and say whatever the media wish him to do and say. In short, the perfect candidate for a post-modernist politics of gesture and image.

Listening over the last few weeks to the preliminary speculations among the Democrats en route to Atlanta, I gather that the only substantive question likely to provoke the semblance of what used to be called a political debate is the one about the paid entertainment.

The avant-garde faction within the Democratic National Committee has hired a Hollywood production team that thoroughly appreciates the genius of LeWitt. The producers have asked Barbara Streisand to sing (against a backdrop of a sentimental film montage) "The Star-Spangled Banner". They have also been in touch with Bill Cosby, Barry Manilow, Bruce Springsteen and a bird trainer who knows how to outfit 5,000 homing pigeons as "doves of peace".

The conservatives, among them Dukakis, apparently object to these theatrical effects as being too impious or too Republican. One functionary close to Dukakis was reported to have said something querulous about the callow disregard for "the speeches... the message... the hard news." Another functionary, even more indignant, said: "These guys want to set up a *Chez Democrat* nightclub instead of a convention."

The decision will probably rest with the networks. Will their cameras prefer Barbara Streisand and the doves, or will a news executive in New York get it into his or her head that maybe this year it might be fun to pretend that the convention is really about politics?

Aside from the question about the entertainment, I have yet to hear any of the travellers to Atlanta express anything other than a tactical interest in any question of domestic or foreign policy. Most of them assume that the Democrats will win the November election, and they

have already begun to inquire about house prices around Washington. Their insouciance inclines them to discount the problem of Jesse Jackson, the party's "conscience".

Yes, they say, the man could make trouble, and yes, it's true that if he makes speeches outside the convention hall and mentions too loudly his policies (higher taxes on the rich, a much reduced arms budget, recognition of a Palestinian state, etc) then his talent for attracting publicity could become an embarrassment.

Without a convincing percentage of the black vote, of course, the Democrats cannot win the White House, but for the moment none of the politicians seem alarmed. Nobody can imagine that Jackson cannot be bought off. The proposition is as unthinkable as nuclear war. Surely the man will accept the offer of a decent ransom; surely he must know that there will be enough patronage for everybody if only the division of the spoils can be kept safely out of sight.

Once that minor matter has been dismissed, usually within a matter of minutes, the politicians move on to the far more absorbing questions of their own self-esteem. Who is staying at the most important hotel (The Ritz Carlton, the Hyatt Regency) and who is going to the best parties? Who will write the speeches and design the First Lady's dresses? Who will provide the new administration with the policy analyses and its line of intellectual dry goods?

Judging by the excitement of my informants, it is matters such as these that decide, if not the fate of nations, then certainly the trajectory of one's career, and if the Democratic convention is about nothing else (which it isn't) it still serves as a red, white and blue platform for the launching of the balloons of the triumphant American self.

The author is editor of Harper's magazine.

Commentary • MICHAEL KINSLEY

A door open to some

Washington
In 1971 about 8,000 Soviet Jews arrived in Vienna with Israeli visas, and 96 per cent of them actually proceeded to Israel. Last year again, after some ups and some downs and some back ups, about 8,000 Jews were allowed to leave the Soviet Union. But word had got out that once you made it to Vienna there was another option. Three quarters chose to settle in the US.

In a world with an estimated 11 million refugees, there is a battle going on for these few thousand bodies. Israel, hungry for Jews, feels these Russians are cheating when they obtain exit permits by proclaiming their love of Zion and then choose the easy life in America.

The United States government, and most American Jews, feel these people should not be forced to go to Israel. Allowing them free choice, writes *New York Times* columnist A.M. Rosenthal, is "a fulfilment of American principle."

Earlier this year the Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, asked the United States to refuse refugee status to Soviet Jews with Israeli visas. When that idea got a stony response the Israelis began arranging for Soviet Jews to leave the USSR via Romania, where the only option will be to go directly to Israel. Do Not Pass Go, Do Not Collect American Visas.

The whole Israeli visa charade, if that doesn't work, the State Department may allow Soviet Jews to retain their official status as refugees — and thus their right to resettle in the United States — despite a "temporary" stay in Israel.

Freedom of choice about where to live surely is a fundamental American principle. Unfortunately, despite the words printed on the Statue of Liberty ("Give us your tired, your poor, your huddled masses" etc), it is a principle that is dishonoured more often than not in our refugee and immigration policy.

The United States has the most generous admissions policy of any nation in the world; but even so, it excludes far more people than it admits.

In some ways the American obsession with Soviet Jews — especially the obsession with making sure they can come to the United States — mocks our principles more than it honours them.

While Israel's rather brutal effort to recruit Jews against their will deserves no special sympathy, the fact that a free and democratic country is eager to take in these people ought to count for a lot when we are turning so many others away.

Contrast the situation of Soviet Armenians. They also are getting exit permits in large numbers. Yet our embassy in Moscow has suddenly stopped issuing refugee visas, ostensibly because its budget is exhausted.

Dozens of Armenians are now stranded in Moscow, after quitting their jobs and shutting off their previous lives by the very act of applying to leave.

The State Department believes that most of these Armenians are not entitled to enter the United States as refugees anyway. The law says that to qualify as a refugee you must be motivated by "a well-founded fear of persecution" in your native country. Otherwise you have to apply for immigration through the normal channels, a lengthy and usually futile procedure.

The State Department believes these Armenians really want to come here for the same reason any sane person would rather live in the United States than in the Soviet Union: a better life. Unfortunately, that's not good enough.

Although Soviet Jews face specific ethnic and religious oppression that Soviet Armenians do not, those who come to the United States are, by and large, not religious and many are not especially ethnic. Their motive is the same mundane but profound one as the Armenians'. But in this case there is no close examination of their motive.

And whatever their motive for leaving the Soviet Union, "a well-founded fear of persecution" cannot be their motive for not wishing to live in Israel.

JULY 16 ON THIS DAY 1929

The Dorchester Hotel is a solidly built edifice designed by William Curtis Green (1876-1960). It was opened, as *The London Encyclopaedia* remarks, "with a flourish" in 1931. After six years the *Gordon Hotels* stake was bought by the McAlpine family who remained in control until 1976, when the hotel was sold to an Arab consortium for £9 million. Since 1985 it has been owned by the Sultan of Brunei.

DORCHESTER HOUSE HOTEL TO BE BUILT ON SITE

Lord Moxley has sold Dorchester House, Park-lane. A contract was signed yesterday afternoon for the purchase of the property by the Gordon Hotels, Limited, associated in the transaction of purchase being Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons, Limited.

regarding the great Park-lane mansion. For some months it has been in the hands of Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. (Dorchester) for sale. Various schemes have been proposed for the future of the property.

Dorchester House site is of nearly 80,000 square feet, and the mansion is 105 feet wide by 135 feet at the side, the total area of the property being almost two acres. It is freehold and free from any restrictions, except as to a very small piece subject to a lease of that in which the Marquess of Hertford died in 1842. It was designed by Lewis Vulliamy for Mr. R.S. Holtford, who required a structure worthy in personae and ornamentation of his famous collection of old masters and first editions.



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THE LAMBETH QUESTIONS

The bishops of the Anglican Communion assemble at Canterbury today for the opening session of the 1988 Lambeth Conference. It will be a spectacular display of the size and vitality of one of the major Christian churches in the world, one which, though particularly associated with this country, has matured well beyond dependence upon its mother church, the Church of England.

There is an unusual sense of excitement, even of crisis, surrounding the deliberations in which the bishops of the 27 Anglican provinces are to engage over the next three weeks. They have to try to resolve a variety of conflicting interests, for the greater good of the whole and the enhancement of Anglicanism's world influence and reputation.

It is a heavy responsibility. In discharging it a great burden is likely to be the nature of the Lambeth Conference itself, which is still what it was at the first one in 1867, constitutionally no more than a consultative and advisory assembly. Everything the bishops do must be calculated to gain general consent in their various provinces.

On some issues it is hard to see how that consent can be achieved. For the Conference, which meets every 10 years, is an international monument to the Anglican principle of dispersed authority. Anglicanism is recognizable on the world Christian stage by a set of attitudes and a shared common history rather than by a clear body of doctrine. It is a family rather than a creed.

That can be a great strength at a time of disagreement and division; but families do quarrel, and family quarrels can be bitter. They can even fall apart, when they can no longer identify sufficient common purposes, and when the sense of being a family no longer carries with it any implications of loyalty to the rest. The Lambeth Conference is probably threatened less by the latter, for it is the one occasion when the importance of family unity is most felt; but there are various issues on their agenda which could turn into stark confrontation.

The most obvious concerns the ordination of women as bishops. A sizeable proportion of those attending, especially from America, are already virtually committed to this development. There are women priests already in the Episcopal Church of the United States who are senior enough to be regarded as suitable candidates for election to the episcopacy. There are at the same time other bishops elsewhere in the Anglican Communion for whom this would be such an illegitimate step that they would not consider a woman bishop to be in the same church as themselves. It was

always likely that the member churches of the Anglican Communion would find the greatest strain between them at the moment when such a key development was imminent. Even if the ordination of women as priests and bishops is both right and inevitable, progress in this direction is bound to be at different speeds in different places. Under the principle of dispersed authority, the management of the consequently strained relationships is a collective responsibility, of which the greatest share has to fall to those furthest ahead.

Ultimately they may have to accept that membership of the Anglican Communion involves the frustrations inherent in mutual obligations. Whether and how the American church shows itself willing to accept such obligations may well prove decisive to the success of the Lambeth Conference as a whole.

The question of unity and authority within the Anglican Communion constitutes something like a theme for the entire three weeks. Various other developments have been proceeding at different speeds in different places — even in different directions. Within each member church, including the Church of England, the adaptation of the foundation texts and principles of Anglicanism have reached the point where its very identity has become indistinct.

The Church of England, for instance, is no longer the church of the 39 Articles, the Authorized Version of the Bible, and the Book of Common Prayer, though none of those sources has been repudiated. While it still preserves the appearance of continuity with its past, as the late Canon Gareth Bennett observed in his *Crockford's Preface* last December, even that cannot be guaranteed in the future, and is seriously questioned in the present. The issue is not just "What is Anglicanism?" but also "Who is to decide?"

If the Lambeth Conference can begin to show how these questions can be answered, it will have done a considerable service to the church, particularly to confused church members who feel a nagging threat to their faith itself. To leave them unattended would imperil the Anglican Communion's continued existence.

Without the issue of the ordination of women to the episcopate, they could conceivably still be regarded as academic points and the search for answers postponed. But the particular case compels urgent attention to the general problem. It is the need to search for the identity of Anglicanism that makes this potentially the most important Lambeth Conference since the first.

TRAVELLING HOPELESSLY

Ever since the President of the Board of Trade was run down by Stephenson's Rocket, governments have failed to keep pace with advances in transport. Those British families currently camping out at Gatwick, crawling along the M25 or strap-hanging their way through the Underground can be forgiven for asking how long history must go on repeating itself.

If they were to ask a member of today's Government, the reply would probably be that it was all the fault of prosperity; when people were taxed too much to go on foreign holidays, there was not half so much trouble.

That is all very well. But the couple spending their wedding night on airport armchairs (however grateful they might be to Thatcherite economics for the ability to fly at all) might also wonder whether a little more central planning might, in this case, be in order.

It would be encouraging, for example, to think that when a decision on the use of airports was taken, the impact on road and rail was taken properly into account. But, as far as we can gather, it would be optimistic too.

The present dramas are not, of course, entirely the fault of governments. Industrial action by air traffic controllers in Italy, France and Greece, says much about the poor sense of professionalism and duty among those willing so regularly to use their unique power in the holiday season. Their bad behaviour does, however, spring partly from overwork. Unanticipated levels of congestion in the skies over Western Europe have led to unnecessary delays and dangers.

As the aircraft suffer delays, so do the airports become overcrowded. At this time of year, even without industrial disputes, airport lounges become quite intolerable. According to the head of the Civil Aviation Authority yesterday, the troubles will be with us for years. The chairman of the British Airports Authority thinks it an urgent requirement that airlines,

airports and tour-operators meet the Government to discuss methods to alleviate matters for next year. For this year, it is too late.

The congestion and queues reflect faulty long-term projections of demand. So do the miles of immobile metalwork that cover the nation's motorways most days. Suburban and even Inter-City trains are often crowded beyond endurance. To stand all the way from London to Scotland on British Rail (as one passenger complained last week) does not put one in the right frame of mind to be told of BR's success — still less that your aching limbs are, in part, a function of the rail boom.

Now high-speed trains are being planned to the Channel Tunnel. But they will not begin until 1998 — five years after the Tunnel is due to open and five years after the French should have introduced theirs. Until then British trains must continue to trundle slowly through Kent.

The London Underground is creaking with prosperity. At certain times of day at certain stations in the West End, passengers have found themselves queuing to reach the platform. Small wonder that people long to escape on holiday.

But when they finally reach their distant destination they often find the jams there even worse than at home. To travel to Rome, or Cairo or Mexico City, or Los Angeles, or Bangkok, or Tokyo is to experience an unpleasantly heightened sense of *deja vu*.

It also removes any lingering sense that eventually the free market will provide easy solutions. Rational beings ought, one supposes, to move their homes back to the inner cities, or their offices to the country. Traffic jams should affect land prices and generally change behaviour in a way which reduces them. Instead, people put videos and microwave ovens in their limousines — and queue longer.

BASIC ERRORS

Until 1997, the British Parliament and the British Government will still be ultimately responsible for the people of Hong Kong. Neither have been doing their duty.

The essential document to be studied is the draft Basic Law for post-1997 Hong Kong drawn up by a committee of the Chinese Government in Peking and published in April. The people of Hong Kong were not consulted, but they have been given time to make their opinions known. Several of their representatives are in London at present to do just that. The question is whether anyone in that authority is listening.

The views of Law Society president, Mr Simon Ip, expressed in *The Times* on Monday, reflect those of the great majority of Hong Kong's professional and business classes. They are alarmed by the unclear nature of the powers reserved to the Government in Peking, and the lack of any legal redress against it, and the lack of a directly elected legislature and executive.

Another worrying factor is the threat of economic instability. It was precisely in order to preserve Hong Kong as a useful capitalist market that the Chinese Government saw the "one country, two systems" formula as being in its interest.

Now Peking risks losing the benefits of this compromise. And the British Government

does not seem to be warning it of the consequences.

Even stronger evidence for the fears of Hong Kong's people is provided by the latest statistics on educated immigration from the Colony, listed in a report to the House of Commons. Up to 10 per cent of all Hong Kong's middle managers emigrated last year alone.

The most extraordinary feature of the whole affair is that the British Government has shown almost no interest in a dialogue with people like Mr Ip whom it has long promoted as the natural leaders of Hong Kong society, and who hold the limited number of representative seats that exist on Hong Kong's present legislature. If this is simply due to indifference, that is bad enough. If it is the result of some informal behind-the-scenes deal with China not to allow any democratic manifestation that might "rock the boat", it lacks all sense and morality.

The educated people of Hong Kong hold the future of the territory in their hands. The Chinese want the appearance of British collaboration in their inevitable take-over because they do not wish these people to be alarmed. The Chinese draft of the Basic Law has alarmed them. China's desire for a prosperous future for the territory can still be used as a lever to improve it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pledges on training of disabled

From the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department of Employment
Sir, I hope I can allay the fears in Mr Marshall's letter of July 11 about the future of Training Commission-funded courses at the Royal National College for the Blind and, by implication, other specialist training providers.

The Government's White Paper, *Training for Employment*, gave an undertaking that current provision for unemployed people with disabilities, and other special groups, would be maintained. Employment training will therefore continue to provide in appropriate cases for a programme of training suited to the particular trainee's disability and training need.

Training Commission officials have in fact been in regular contact with the college over recent months to work out how the piano technician courses mentioned by Mr Marshall and other courses for visually impaired students could fit into the new training arrangements.

Special aids and equipment, readers for blind trainees and

communicators for people with hearing difficulties, exceptional eligibility conditions, extra funding, extended assessment and introduction, and the facilities of residential college or the employment rehabilitation service will all be available to training providers to help meet the needs of people with disabilities.

The Government and the Training Commission have a very good story to tell about the value, variety and responsiveness of the opportunities which Employment Training will offer to people with disabilities.

The RNCB has in the past made a valuable contribution to the training of visually impaired people in association with the commission and its predecessor. I look forward to that relationship continuing every bit as closely under employment training.

PATRICK NICOLLS, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department of Employment, Caxton House, Tothill Street, SW1, July 12.

Football thugs

From Mr Tom Pendry, MP for Southwark and Hyde (Labour)
Sir, Your leader of July 8, "Members only", misunderstands the problems facing English football. A national computerised membership card scheme may well enable clubs to "extort some control over the spectators they admit" but it will not tackle the hooligan problem.

The membership cards will create new difficulties, particularly in getting large crowds into football grounds on time. Even if the card slows supporters down by just a few seconds each, when multiplied by the 20,000 plus who enter Old Trafford in the 20 minutes before kick-off, the scale of the problem will be enormous.

Of greater importance is the fact that hooligan activities now increasingly take place away from grounds. Segregation, 50 per cent membership schemes and closed-circuit television cameras have all shifted the thug out of grounds in the last three seasons.

Hooliganism is clearly an issue for the whole of society. Football can and should take a lead in combating this evil but it cannot succeed alone. No membership scheme will stop hooligans at

home (let alone abroad) without Government action to get to grips with this aggressive masculine behaviour.

Yours sincerely, TOM PENDRY (Chairman, Parliamentary Labour Party Sports Committee and the All-Party Football Committee), House of Commons, July 12.

From Mr David Wolchover
Sir, It is to be assumed that Sir Peter Imbert was unveiling a new Metropolitan Police policy when he announced to Ludovic Kennedy (July 12) that the collapse of the football prosecutions "means we shall have to abort all cases where there's the least suspicion of discrepancy between officers' notes".

During the month or two since those dramatic failures there has certainly been no sign at all of any such rigour. Presumably, unless Sir Peter's avowal is mere flannel, we may now expect scores of cases across London to be dropped in mid-trial, starting with this very week.

Yours faithfully, DAVID WOLCHOVER, 11 South Square, Gray's Inn, WC1, July 12.

Bullying in school

From Dr Jean Lawrence
Sir, Your leader "School bullies" of July 5 states:

one of the first tasks for Lord Elton's inquiry into school discipline is to establish the facts. This committee has asked chief education officers to furnish it with replies to certain key questions — e.g. whether there is, in their view, currently a "discipline problem" in schools, and if so, how serious and widespread it is. Most LEAs will cope with this request by asking their head teachers (and some others) to send them their answers to these questions. Head teachers are likely to consult their senior staff.

What the committee appears not to realise is that head teachers will be tempted to minimise their own school's situation because

Fate of Cambridge shrine to Cook

From Sir Donald Tebbit
Sir, A planning appeal of more than local interest is to be heard on August 16 in the Guildhall at Cambridge by an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment. At stake is the future of the beautiful but redundant Church of St Andrew the Great, which occupies a conspicuous central site opposite the main gate of Christ's College.

Proposals to turn the church into shops, adjoining the undistinguished modern sprawl of the Lion Yard shopping centre, have been rejected three times by the Cambridge planning authorities. The appeal is against these repeated rejections.

Should it succeed and lead to unstrained commercialization of the church premises, the damage already inflicted on the Perry Curry area of this exquisite university city through previous planning lapses will be endorsed and extended.

However, far more than such normal conservation arguments are at issue here. For the church contains not only the graves of the widow and two sons of Captain James Cook but also the Cook family's monument to the great man's memory and achievements. This memorial was not only planned and erected by Mrs Cook, who incidentally outlived her husband by 56 years, but was actually endowed by her.

This historic memorial has made the church a place of

pilgrimage for admirers of Captain Cook, from this country and all round the world, especially Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the Pacific Islands. Tragically, such pilgrims now find their way bolted and barred, as from any ordinary building site.

The manner of Captain Cook's death in Hawaii, and the impossibility of recovering his body, deprived this great hero of an honoured burial in this country when his grave, like that of Nelson in St Paul's Cathedral, would have become a national shrine.

The monument in St Andrew's Church is thus the nearest equivalent to a resting place in this country for this greatest and most humane of English navigators.

In order to honour him the Australians reverently transported his entire cottage stone by stone from England and lovingly reconstructed it in Melbourne. Surely his own countrymen here at home cannot neglect both his permanent memorial and his widow's grave?

May I plead with everyone concerned with decisions on the future use of this church to cooperate with each other in such a way as to ensure that Captain Cook's memory is fittingly honoured and his widow's manifest wishes respected? Yours sincerely, DONALD TEBBIT, Priory Cottage, Toft, Cambridge, July 6.

Church and State

From Canon Christopher Bennett
Sir, If the Church Commissioners' income should not arise from either property or the Stock Exchange, as Mr Young implies (July 12), please could we be told what their income should arise from? The Church had income from property long before the Church (or Ecclesiastical) Commissioners came into being.

I have seen no sign of leading churchmen holding back from berating Mrs Thatcher's ideas, or those of any other politician. The once-held idea that the Church of England was the Conservative Party at prayer is well out of date.

Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER BENNETT, The Old Pound, Mappowder, Nr Sturminster Newton, Dorset.

Armada anniversary

From Professor W. T. Stearn
Sir, With the quadricentenary of the defeat of the Spanish Armada approaching, it seems fitting to recall that the Spanish Army at that time was the most formidable in Europe. Elizabeth's inadequate and not wholly trustworthy army would have probably fought against it in vain, as it had done in The Netherlands.

The failure of the Armada was, however, as vital for the survival of the Dutch United Provinces as it was for Protestant England. Therein lay potential disaster for the Spanish plan; the Duke of Parma's veteran army had to be transported in barges to the Armada.

A Dutch fleet under Justus van Nassau, manned by seamen as skilled as the English, waited for this golden opportunity to destroy them and would have joined forces with the English fleet but for the latter's decisive victory at Gravelines. The Armada was not the last Spanish fleet to enter the English Channel; the Dutch defeated one there in 1639.

In this tercentenary year of the arrival of William and Mary, the earlier Dutch association merits remembrance; if the English fleet had not been so successful, the Dutch reinforcement when English ammunition was getting low would have been valuable indeed.

Yours faithfully, WILLIAM T. STEARN, 17 High Park Road, Kew Gardens, Richmond, Surrey.

Geometric change

From Mr B. Cook
Sir, Not only Mr Dixon (July 4), but Mr Brock (July 9) have some way to go yet. During my 33 years of teaching I, too, kept a note of the different misspellings of "isosceles" that came my way. Unlike Mr Brock, I did not get bored with it since, right up to the end, I continued to get new variations, finishing with a total of 259.

If anyone should be interested I will gladly send them a list of the different spellings, some of which do not even begin with the letter "I". Yours faithfully, B. COOK, 5 Upper Colthridge Terrace, Edinburgh, July 10.

Passage of arms

From Sir John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest (Conservative)
Sir, I am glad that Norroy and Ulster King of Arms (July 9) has joined the battle against the yuppie republicanism of the DTI logo. It is of a piece with "Government Minister", "my Government", "Mrs Thatcher's Government".

Incidentally, after correspondence with Sir Robert (now Lord) Armstrong, then Cabinet Secretary, I got "and President of the Board of Trade" added to "Secretary of State for Trade and Industry" in Hansard etc. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant. JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON, House of Commons, July 9.

Rate of return

From Mr Anthony Smallhorn
Sir, July 5 was my birthday. British Telecom celebrated this by sending me 10 identical VAT invoices for the same amount, each in a separate window envelope, behind which was printed the statement "We welcome prompt payment — this helps keep costs down".

Each invoice included the statement "No payment is required". It was by far the best birthday present I had. I intend to claim VAT on every invoice! Yours faithfully, ANTHONY SMALLHORN, Wrayfield House, Stotfold, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, July 7.

Provincial brokers

From Mr Charles Guest
Sir, Sir William was Straubenzec (July 5) might well be advised to seek the services of a firm of stockbrokers outside London. Many such firms, who are not saddled with London overheads, would welcome the opportunity to look after his "modest" trust portfolios, without charging management fees.

The demise of the Stock Exchange trading floor and the advent of screen trading means that the necessity of being close to Throgmorton Street is now no longer a valid argument.

In the past, the provincial broker was thought to be less informed of current "buzz" than his City counterparts, but trustees should be concerned with long-term investment strategy, rather than speculation, and the provincial broker is well able to provide a detached long-term view.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES GUEST, 4 Chartfield House, Castle Street, Taunton, Somerset, July 6.

Gate in disrepair

From Mr P. C. H. H. Preston
Sir, Mr Vassiltchikov's moving lament (July 11) is slightly misdirected. The ironwork in question, at the entrance to Kensington Gardens, is Coalbrookdale Gate, standing at right angles to Alexandra Gate.

Let any of your readers should steal out by night and affix the last word in portal proclamations to it, may I beg them to stay their hand and put their energies behind seeking the reinstatement of a more inspiring message that already exists, albeit in tatters at my last inspection, at the base of each supporting pillar. Small cast iron scrolls once informed the discerning eye that this magnificent gate was cast in Derby in 1831, for the Great Exhibition.

I wrote some years ago to the Department of the Environment, and to the Victorian Society, urging them to relocate this line of history to a point where all could savour it, but I believe to no end. Yours faithfully, P. C. H. H. PRESTON, 10 Rudolph Road, Bushey, Hertfordshire.

Uneasy on the ear

From Mr Bernard Ashby
Sir, Your correspondent, Mr Ian Niall (July 6), reminds me of a far less violent rhyme about Ourary which my late father, brought up in Kent, picked up from the "topickers".

Using the same format favoured by Mr Niall it runs thus: Ourary went to the steed Ourary lost it Ourary smurver staidatory "Ourary where's syrat?" Ourary said "Angin on the look in the hall!"

Anything lost in my childhood was inevitably declared to be on that same 'look! In similar vein, any large bird seen in the sky would evoke the dialogue: "Sneak!" "Snootsneagle!" Yours sincerely, BERNARD ASHBY, 16 Lanark Close, W5, July 8.

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July 16 - 22, 1988

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

A sporting chance of survival

Shooting and fishing, once merely the pastimes of the landed classes, are often now the life blood of their estates. Alan Hamilton visits Floors Castle, country seat of the Duke of Roxburghe and the scene of next weekend's Game Fair

Preposterously turreted as though Mad King Ludwig had been limbering up with his Lego, and magnificently sited on a natural gravel terrace above the Tweed, Floors Castle is nothing if not romantic. The home of the young Tarzan in the film Grystolia, and of Guy David Innes-Ker, 10th Duke of Roxburghe in real life, it was at Floors that Prince Andrew went on bended knee to seek the hand of Miss Ferguson, as she was then.

In truth, close up, it is a somewhat gloomy pile, perhaps because of the drab grey paint of its window frames. Plainly built on the edge of Kelso by William Adam in 1718, it was refitted by the 19th-century architect William Playfair, who was busy infesting his native Edinburgh with neo-Jacobean extravaganzas at the time.

From his home at Floors (the local aristocracy like to pronounce it in its old-fashioned French form, Fleurs, but we no-nonsense Border peasantry rhyme it unequivocally with doors) the Duke commands his vast domain of 90 square miles - the rich arable acres of the Tweed valley, and the hill farms and rough shooting on the high-bald moors of the Lammermuirs, and the Cheviots.

John Ker of Selkirk acquired land in the Bowmont valley of the Cheviots in 1358 and laid the foundation of a great estate and a dynasty. Although more than two-thirds of the 56,000 acres are now let out to 50 tenant farmers, the Roxburghe estate is still big business, employing more than 100 full-time staff in estate management and its other commercial enterprises.

The traditional family business is stock and arable farming; the Duke has watched for 10 years as falling farm prices have shrunk his income.

But the Duke is fortunate. At the end of his garden run the dark, enticing waters of one of the great salmon rivers.

The value of Tweed salmon beats may be judged by the fact that when the previous Duke died in 1974, his son was able to satisfy a large part of the Inland Revenue's rapacious demand for death duties by selling off to Hardies, the

fishing tackle people, the Junction and Sprouston beats, where the Tweed beats through Kelso town and receives its tributary, the Teviot. The Duke, aged 33 and with three children, is determined not to sell any more. "Being able to pass the estate to one's children is a primary concern. Nevertheless, the activities of running the estate must reflect the times in which it happens. I think it must become more commercial."

Now, you know what fishermen are like with their tall tales. But the word is none the less current in Kelso this week that the six rods who take the Junction for the prime week this October will pay a record £15,000 for the privilege of casting their flies upon its waters. Last autumn the same beat for the same week was going for £9,800.

They would find a better bargain, but no guarantee of any better luck, if they moved a few yards upstream to fish with the Duke on his Upper and Lower Floors beats, two of Europe's finest stretches of salmon fishing in anybody's book.

It was on Upper Floors in 1887 that Arthur Prior took a 57-pounder, the largest from the Tweed since records began, although it is rumoured that in the 1700s, before such things were properly written down, the Earl of Home took a 64-pounder at Coldstream.

The Tweed used to be a spring river, but one of the many unfathomed mysteries of the salmon is their cyclical habit, and it is now in the autumn run that the greatest crowd of elusive darting silver makes its way from Berwick to the spawning grounds.

For his prime week in late October this year the Duke will be charging £4,500 for four rods. The only stipulation will be that you stay at his own hotel, Sunlaws House, where charges will be rather higher than at the pleasant old Ednam House Hotel in Kelso town, the favoured base of those anglers fishing the other beats in the area, and whose lobby and bar are papered with the yellowing photographic proof of past piscatorial triumphs.

But do not trouble to phone the Duke for a place in



Rural idyll: the Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe in the grounds of Floors Castle. The estate covers 90 square miles



October, the exclusiveness of the very best of salmon fishing is not determined by cost, but by scarcity. He might, however, fit you in during one of the less sought-after weeks of the year, for as little as £1,300 for four rods. And spring salmon, their bodies unburdened by eggs and milt, are much better eating.

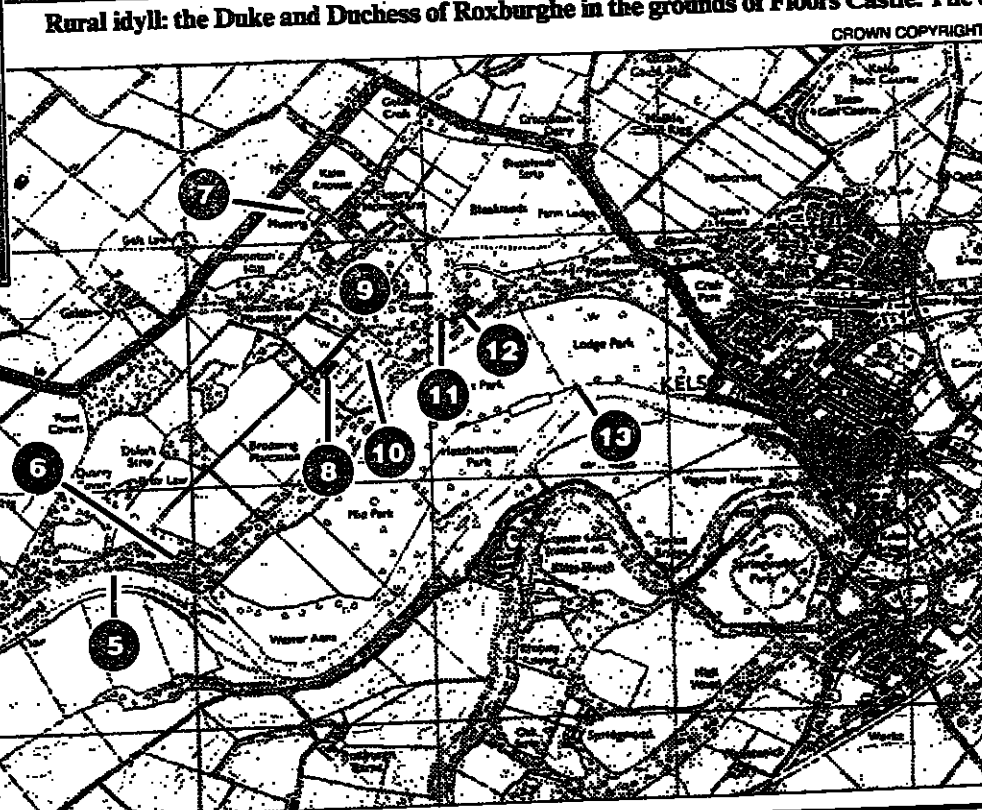
Peter Batchelor, the Duke's factor, keeps immaculate records of the fishing at Floors: 365 salmon caught in Upper Floors last year, against a 10-year average of 453, and 203 in Lower Floors, against an average of 372. "There is no real evidence of a long-term decline, despite more intensive fishing on the high seas," Batchelor says. "The buying out of the traditional nets on the river by the Tweed Commissioners can only benefit the sportsman."

Shooting is mainly for pheasant in the Castle grounds; the Duke has two grouse moors on the Lammermuirs, but he and his father-in-law, Jocelyn Hambro, prefer to shoot the grouse largely to themselves.

Shooting is let by the day, at £15 per bird plus VAT, but the high costs, and the fact that the Duke keeps much of the shooting for himself,

mean that the operation ran at a loss. The Duke has 13 shooting beats let and three beats in hand; last year he released 14,260 poult, a figure which this year is being increased to 16,000.

cheap and easy to organize and is enjoying an immense burst of popularity. But the growth of sport is in itself not enough to balance the decline in farm incomes, and nor is opening the Castle to an average of 55,000 paying visitors each summer, an intrusion stoutly resisted by his father but forced on the present Duke in 1977 by the need to generate funds.



ON THE ESTATE

- The maps show how the labour involvement on the Roxburghe estate is divided: 1. 2,000 acres of home farms: one manager; one stockman; four tractormen. 2. 12,000 acres: hill farms; 10 shepherds. 3. 38,690 acres let to 50 farmers, maintained by estate: 12 tradesmen. 4. Sunlaws House Hotel: 30 full-time, 10 part-time staff. 5. Upper Floors beat: two gillies. 6. Shooting: seven gamekeepers. 7. Floors stud: three grooms. 8. Garden centre: One full-time saleswoman, three part-time sales staff. 9. Woodlands: 10 foresters. 10. Castle gardens: three gardeners. 11. Estate office: 12 staff. 12. Floors Castle public apartments: 13 guides, six shop and six restaurant staff, all part-time. Grounds: two maintenance men. 13. Salmon fishing, Lower Floors beat: two gillies.

Green wellies, guns and fair game

According to the CLA, two types of people attend the Game Fair: active sportsmen, and urban families eager for an entertaining and instructive day out in the countryside.

Being in Scotland, this year's fair will have certain Scottish themes, including a major display of grouse moor management, and an exhibit by the River Tweed Commissioners showing their efforts to improve stocks for the sporting anglers.

But, as always, it is the major competitive events that will be the big draw. The CLA clay pigeon shoot at the fair is now one of the biggest open sporting shoots in the world. The International Gundog Competition, a contest among the four home nations, is the premier event of its kind in the world, culminating in a test to retrieve from an island in the Tweed.

Visitors will have a chance, normally accorded only to a fortunate few, to try catching a salmon on the Duke of Roxburghe's Lower Floors beat. Luck will be rewarded by being allowed to keep the catch. Visitors who neither fish nor game shoot may try their hand at algon shooting or archery, or watch demonstrations of falconry, dog obedience, country crafts, forestry, conservation and countryside management. They may also be intrigued by the 100-yard temporary bridge thrown across the Tweed by the Gurkha Squadron of the Royal Engineers to allow access to the showground from the car park on the south bank of the river.

It is strong enough to carry at least 20 four-wheel drive Subarus at a time. And it will save the visitors from getting their green wellies wet.

1988 Scottish Game Fair, Floors Castle, Kelso, Roxburghshire, July 22-24. Admission £5.50 per adult, children under 14 and car parking free. Entry to castle: adults £1.50, children over 14 £1, children under 14, free.



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How to avoid airport delays, page 17

LIFE IS CHEAP



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A CHILD NEEDS YOU The link between you and the child is vital. You will be able to see the practical improvements your money is making. You will receive a photograph of the child, regular reports about his or her progress and regular reports about his or her progress and should you wish to write to your sponsored child we will ensure your letters are received and that your child is able to write to you.

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Expertly roasted to bring out all the delicate taste. 'Nescafé Cap Colombian'. A rare experience in taste.

HOLIDAYS & VILLAS

TRAVEL 1

Bargain buys in air fares

Alex McWhirter rounds up a selection of this summer's best deals in scheduled air travel to the continent

Thanks to increased airline competition, it is now as cheap to fly to Europe in scheduled air travel as to travel second class by train and ferry.

Take the example of Ireland. Since local airline Ryanair instigated price competition on the vital routes, passengers are spoilt for choice. Low-cost airlines alone is flying between London (Luton), Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Cardiff and Glasgow on the one hand, and Dublin, Waterford, Cork, Shannon and Knock on the other.

An even cheaper fare between Luton and Dublin is Virgin Atlantic's deal of \$45 one way/\$69 return for peak-time flights, and £29/\$38 in the off-peak.

There is a summer sale down at London's Docklands airport where the local airline, London City Airways (LCA), has cut fares right across the board.

For short-stay trips (maximum stay three days) LCA is charging £119 to Amsterdam and Paris. In addition there are day trip "mystery flights" from the Docklands airport to either Amsterdam, Brussels or Paris.

Other good value deals this summer include BA's range of return Maxisaver fares (book 78 days ahead) on some of its flights from Gatwick. These undercut BA's cheaper fares out of Heathrow.

Also out of Gatwick, Air Europe has extended its low fares network to include Brussels and Munich. A fully flexible return to Brussels costs £118 while £135 buys an excursion return to Munich, a useful gateway for Innsbruck and Salzburg.

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Cam carnival

OUTINGS CAMBRIDGE FESTIVAL CARNIVAL AND OPENING CELEBRATIONS: Carnival parade 8pm, Puss Hill; carnival 9.30pm, Parker's Piece. Opening concert in King's College Chapel 8pm. American 1940s "Squadronaires" theme dance, Corn Exchange 9pm, and festival fireworks at Parker's Piece, 9.45pm.

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL 2

Idol moments on top of the world

The Raj and the hippies have come and gone – but does Kathmandu still cast a spell? Andrew Powell reports

reluctant to relinquish the romantic illusion – and happily it is not strictly necessary. I was talking recently to a visiting American Fulbright professor at Kathmandu's Tribhuvan University who, besides bewailing a variety of recent changes for the worse, pointed out that all is not yet lost. Most weekends, he said, he and his wife hired a taxi to the edge of the valley, telling the driver to pick them up in the late afternoon at a pre-arranged location, a few hours' leisurely walk away.

The purpose of such rambles was, he explained, to rediscover the timeless atmosphere which, away from the urban areas, remains entirely undiminished.

Earlier this year I, too, took a car to Nagarkot, a cluster of houses on a ridge 45 minutes to the east of Kathmandu. After only a quarter of an hour we passed through Thimi, a settlement traditionally renowned for its pottery. The side of the road was littered with what looked like the salvaged cargo of a wrecked trimer: thousands of oil jars and water pitchers were spilling out of packing cases into the gutter, ample proof that the village's ancient speciality had survived intact. As the road wound steadily upwards through rice terraces and corpulent oxen, I realized, abruptly, that the 20th century had melted away. There was nothing in the landscape which could not have been there 200 years before.

Nagarkot is still the best place in the world for a picnic on a sunny day. From the grassy meadows on the north face of the hill there is an uninterrupted panorama of 200 miles of mountains, from Annapurna in the west to the insignificant outline of Everest on the eastern horizon.

Three hours' walk downhill through the fields brought me to the exquisite Hindu temple of Changu Naryan, its precincts unoccupied apart from two cows patiently chewing a pile of straw. A further 40 minutes' walk, much of the way beside a stream, and I was back on the road to the city of Bhaktapur where my taxi was waiting, its driver asleep on the back seat.

Although in the imagination of the armchair traveller nowhere is more remote than Timbuctoo, another, strangely similar placename encapsulates the most exotic, mysterious and alluring aspects of Abroad. Kipling put it succinctly: "And the wildest dreams of Kew/Are the fact of Kathmandu."

Actually in Kipling's day the facts were extremely difficult to ascertain. Even when the British were most energetically shouldering the white man's burden, Kathmandu was off-limits. A few senior diplomats were allowed to go there, but the rank and file of the Indian Civil Service sweating it out on the plains could only speculate as to what went on over the ridge of the inviting green hills 50 miles to the north.

Within 20 years of the Raj returning home to Whitehall and to barracks, Kathmandu had become notorious. It was the terminus of the overland route from Europe to the east, the hippy capital of the world, a city globally famous for its remarkably modest cost of living, and the ready availability of marijuana. Another couple of decades having drifted past, what can today's visitor expect from Kathmandu? Is it still a city capable of sustaining the fantasy which its uniquely evocative name has long inspired?

I first went there in 1981 and have been back seven or eight times since. Quite unintentionally I appear to have fallen into a habit. As soon as conveniently possible after hacking my way through some of the world's most irritating immigration and customs procedures, I take a taxi to Swayambunath, a hill on the western outskirts of town. From the parapet of the Buddhist monastery perched on the top, the landscape of the Kathmandu valley is spread out like a vast model constructed for the benefit of students of Himalayan geography. In autumn and winter when the air is clear, you can often see for about 100 miles. Immediately to the south, the forested Mahabharat hills block what would otherwise be a view of the Nepalese lowlands and the Indian plains. To the north and east, however, the glistening snow peaks of the Ganesh Himal and, in

the far distance, the Everest region of Khumbu float in the sky like curiously angular clouds.

The Kathmandu valley itself is a fertile puddle lying at an altitude of 4,500 feet between the foothills and the Great Himalayas. Until the 18th century there were three independent kingdoms in the valley: Bhaktapur, Patan and Kathmandu itself. Rather in the manner of Florence and Siena, these city-states developed as rivals, expressing their conflicting ambitions and egos chiefly in architecture, with occasional lapses into actual fighting. It was not until 1768 that a bellicose king from outside the valley unified the territory by conquest and invented the concept of the Nepalese state.

From Swayambunath, the three separate clumps of palaces and pagodas are still clearly visible, each grouped around its Durbar Square (Kathmandu's equivalent to the piazza). It is this unique architectural heritage, on which Unesco to its credit has lavished much time and money, that most of today's tourists come to see. Despite the numbers of foreign visitors who now daily do the rounds, strolling from courtyard to courtyard remains a remarkably enjoyable way to spend two or three days, the pleasure being diminished only by the absence of an adequate guidebook. There is in fact a glut of books on Kathmandu, but these may be

divided loosely into two categories: those which tell you where to eat lunch for less than 20p, and those which provide you with endless photographs of the building you are standing in front of, while giving you only titbits of information about who built it, of what, when, why and for whom.

Gazing down on Kathmandu from a privileged position 500 feet above the mayhem of the streets, it is not too difficult to believe that this is still the exotic forbidden kingdom of 50 years ago. During my visits, however, I have watched gloomily as concrete inexorably asserted itself on the skylines of the ancient cities. Kathmandu and Patan are now joined by a hideous, ill-planned sprawl, and even from the serene height of Swayambunath it is impossible not to notice how rapidly the suburbs are flooding over the green of the ricefields.

The truth is that Kathmandu is in the grip of a particularly cruel dilemma. Its population is rising rapidly (magnified by steady immigration from the poor, mountainous areas), but as the city expands it is consuming the best agricultural land in Nepal. Add to this a chronic pollution problem caused by the thousands of ramshackle cars and lorries with which the city is nowadays choked, and one is obliged, regretfully, to concede that during the past decade the atmosphere of Shangri-la has vanished for ever.

Being in love with the Kathmandu valley, however, I am

TRAVEL NOTES

Most of the major tour operators include Kathmandu and Nepal in their brochures. However, none can rival the experience of ExplorAsia, 13 Chapter Street, London SW1 (01-630 7102), the UK agents for both the famous Tigertops jungle lodge and Mountain Travel, the leading trekking/mountaineering company in the Himalayas. The appearance and character of the Kathmandu valley are transformed by the changing

seasons. The best months are October and November when the air is clear and the countryside green and blooming after the monsoon. December to February are also good. April, May and June are generally to be avoided. Nepal is not a good place to take chances with your health: there is a great deal of hepatitis and typhoid, and fairly frequent cases of meningitis. It is necessary to be exceptionally careful with drinking water.



Beauty and the beast: street scene in Patan, one of the three ancient kingdoms of the Kathmandu valley

Here today, and here tomorrow

How will Britain's airports cope with a summer of air controllers' strikes?

Information is the scarcest commodity in the continuing flight chaos. With Greek and French air traffic managers said to be taking their telephones off the hook, airline operators trying to re-arrange disrupted schedules are as frustrated as their long-delayed passengers. Lack of information about what is happening is the complaint on every side.

How waiting holidaymakers fared during this week's Greek air traffic controllers' dispute, which ended on Wednesday, gives some indication of who will suffer least (and who will suffer most) distress in the continued disruption.

Holiday flights to the United States have been virtually unaffected by European air traffic problems. So those who chose Florida and California this summer can expect no more than ordinary operational delays (engine problems, etc) and the small

discomfort of elbowing their way through, or stepping over, less fortunate passengers.

Heathrow passengers have fared better than most. The longest delay during the Greek dispute was 90 minutes, a sharp contrast with Gatwick, where there were delays just short of 48 hours.

Of those flying from Gatwick, passengers leaving from the new North Terminal have had far more space to stretch out, and shorter queues for food, drink and lavatories than their less fortunate fellows sleeping on the bare floor of the old terminal building. The North Terminal is used exclusively by British Airways and Caledonian flights. Those taking British Airways Holidays (Enterprise, Sovereign, Flair, and Martin Rook) and other operators using BA Gatwick flights will wait in comfort.

Some airlines are more efficient than others at the



Terminal boredom: passengers find that sleep is the best way to pass the time at Gatwick, where some flights have been delayed by almost two days

complicated procedures involved in obtaining slots. Others, rightly staffed, are running out of crews fit to fly as the knock-on effects of delays disrupt duty rosters. At mid-morning yesterday British Island Airways had more flight delays on Gatwick's departure board than any other airline.

Some tour companies are treating stranded holidaymakers better than others. The most obvious cause of friction occurs when one flight differs from other operators, each of which treats its clients differently in the provision of meals and compensation.

Typically, a delay of 24 hours or more entitles passengers to a cancellation with their money back, or compensation of about £20 with increments every 12 hours, on top of any meals and accommodation offered. But not all insurance policies include flight delay compensation so it is wise to check insurance documents and brochure booking conditions before leaving. And don't expect a cash handout even if a long delay creates an entitlement. A cheque in the post is more likely.

Shona Crawford Poole

BELFAST

Three to four midweek flights on average, 30 at weekends. Around 550 passengers on summer weekdays, up to 4,200 at weekends. Longest delay last Tuesday 31 hours on a flight to Greece. 150 passengers spent Tuesday night at the airport.

Delay provision: all-night catering, extra night heating, blankets, TV sets, a mini-cinema for children, extra cleaning. Extra nappies and baby food in the shops.

BRISTOL

Average midweek summer flights 15 to 20 a day, taking up to 1,500 passengers. On Tuesday there was a 43-hour delay on a flight to Corfu. On Wednesday two planes were delayed, the longest for 18 hours; 88 passengers slept at the airport on Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Delay provision: all-night catering, video, children's entertainers, extra seats, blankets and additional cleaning.

EAST MIDLANDS

Average midweek summer flights 12 to 15, taking 1,700 to 2,100 passengers. Two Greek flights were delayed on Tuesday, one for 21 hours, the other 25 hours. On Wednesday, four planes were delayed, the longest for 15 hours. Most tour operators took passengers to hotels, but 130 from a delayed Rimini flight slept at the airport.

Delay provision: 24-hour catering and shop, blankets, play packs and entertainers for children, plus TV sets, extra cleaning and extra seats.

GLASGOW

Average 40 international departures on summer weekdays, with about 6,400 passengers. No delays on Tuesday, two on Wednesday. The worst was 22 hours. Between 300 and 400 passengers slept at the airport on Wednesday night.

Delay provision: extra seating, catering, cleaning and information displays.

LUTON

Average of 60 departures daily in summer, taking around 7,000 passengers. Around 50 flights were delayed last Tuesday and Wednesday, the longest 32 hours. Between 500 and 600 passengers slept at the airport on both nights.

Delay provision: additional seating, TVs, blankets and entertainers in addition to the children's play area always available.

MANCHESTER

About 140 international daily departures in summer, carrying 27,000 passengers (15,000 of them on charter flights). On Tuesday two flights were delayed, one for 53 hours, another for 48. Six were delayed on Wednesday, three for over 24 hours. About 1,000 passengers slept at the airport on each night.

Delay provision: creche, round-the-clock cleaning and catering, live entertainment for children, TVs and videos. Despite hundreds of extra chairs some people had to sleep on the floor.

NEWCASTLE

About 100,000 passengers on average summer day. Longest

HEATHROW

Average 60 international departures daily at this time of year, carrying up to 10,000

WESTERN FRANCE FOR FEWER FRANCS. FROM £65.

Destination	Accommodation	Price from	Nights
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Caudebec	Hotel du Baisieux	£71.00	2 B&B*
Le Havre	Hotel du Dauphin	£65.00	2 B&B*
Rouen	Hotel Ibis		

SELF CATERING IN NORMANDY
Garden Club de Beuville
1 Child under 12 years
£125.00 per person 7 nights*

* Example per person price based on 4 adults in a car up to 85 miles including return air fare and accommodation. All holidays subject to availability.

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THE ARTS

The sedate world of publishing is heading for a punch-up over protectionism, Chris Peachment reports

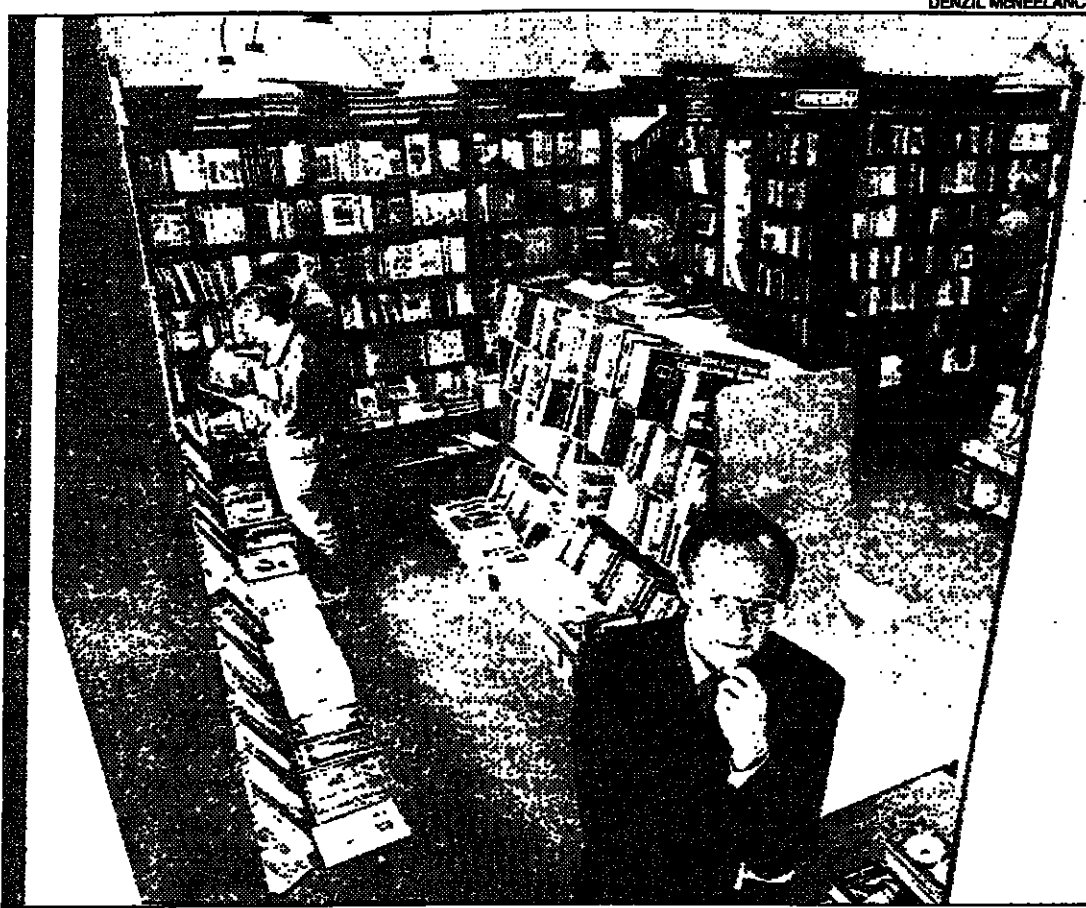
Gentlemen at arms

Aside from the late Jamie Hamilton, who founded the house of Hamish Hamilton, publishers are not noted for their pugilistic skills.

There is, however, a scrap looming in the once-gentlemanly profession. In the red corner, I give you Terry Maher, head of the Pentos group which runs the Dillons and Athena chain of bookshops.

In these free-market times, it is surprising that, aside from a few particular pharmaceuticals, books are the only product left for which there exists a retail price maintenance agreement.

Last May, Terry Maher put the cat among the pigeons when he addressed the Booksellers Conference in Bournemouth and called for the abolition of the NBA.



Fighting talk: Terry Maher says his opponents are being hypocritical in trying to keep the agreement alive

expanded its sales from £6.5 million to £13.5 million, and his regional branches are all prospering.

"One hell of a lot", replies almost everybody else. "He says it stifles competition - that is nonsense," says Tim Godfray of the Booksellers' Association.

The main general argument, voiced by even the more successful chain booksellers such as Richard Joseph, of Books Etc., is that while a few best-sellers in the window will be sold at a couple of pence off, this will mean a decrease in overall profit for the year.

Indeed, Stephen Du Sautoy, who runs the New Saxon Bookshop in Bury St Edmunds, admits to worries: "If the local Tesco is selling the latest Graham Greene half price, then I can hardly blame my loyal customers if they decide to go there to buy it."

The debate is over as far as I'm concerned. Pentos is going to be the first company to break the agreement.

"because you will be selling more of the best-sellers and therefore increasing your profit."

All of the arguments, however, are to some extent moot, since no one can exactly predict what the future would hold. Practitioners in the trade look to the foreign examples of NBA to bolster their arguments for or against. Perhaps the one case most strongly in favour of retention is that of the French.

Christopher Sinclair-Stevenson, managing director of Hamish Hamilton and a man who has been converted from his abolitionist position to being a fervent supporter of the NBA, is more worried about a general polarization of the market.

So who will make the first move? "As far as I am concerned," says Maher, "the debate is over. It has all been very, very costly, but now things will change. And Pentos will be the first to break the agreement."

Indeed, Stephen Du Sautoy, who runs the New Saxon Bookshop in Bury St Edmunds, admits to worries: "If the local Tesco is selling the latest Graham Greene half price, then I can hardly blame my loyal customers if they decide to go there to buy it."

want when they come in, but browse a while and leave with something else. One answer would be to specialize more, but we do that already."

Perhaps the clincher for the forces of retention is that W.H. Smith, whom everyone is agreed would be the one chain which would stand to benefit enormously from the disappearance of NBA, are solidly behind it.

Waterstone is more ambivalent, since he views the NBA's retention as "frankly, dishonest. Times have changed vastly since 1962. We now have book clubs offering cut-price books, for example. It is true that small independents may close down, but that would simply be an acceleration of a present trend. I will not be the first to break it, but I'll be delighted if it goes."

It should be said, finally, that many publishers are, off the record, resigned to the fact that the NBA will probably eventually disappear.

When he does try his Sunday punch, he will be up against the considerable clout of Clive Bradley, of the Publishers' Association.

Let's have a nice clean fight, gentlemen, no head butting, nothing below the belt. Come out fighting, and may the best man win.

Playing it by numbers

Michael Jackson Wembley Stadium

When Michael Jackson's record producer, Quincy Jones, was asked which performers had most impressed his client, he responded without hesitation: James Brown, Walt Disney, Gene Kelly and Fred Astaire.

Although the music was played to perfection it might just as well have been pre-recorded for all that was visible of the musicians for most of the time.

A rapid fire medley of "the old songs played the old fashioned way", which included "Give Me One More Chance" and "I'll Be There", was a reminder of his early days as a child star with the Jackson Five.

His mis-spent youth watching performers from the wings of theatres on the American "Chitlin' circuit" remains the key to his modern performance style. As he observes in his autobiography, "some musicians - Springsteen and U2 for example - may feel they got their education from the streets. I'm a performer at heart. I got mine from the stage."

His old stage's sense of timing rarely let him down as he swept through a series of glittering set pieces, to the delight of his fans: fedora hats and a gunfight at the end of "Smooth Criminal", the werewolf head and ghoul costumes for "Thriller" and even a



David Sinclair puts a question mark over the reputation of a living legend

grand illusion just before "Beat It" when he was hoisted aloft in a covered cage, disappeared in a puff of smoke. He was then lifted on the platform of a cherry-picker crane out above the heads of the audience.

However, the glorious pazzazz and restless energetic bustle of the show did not entirely conceal the absence of musical adventure or sense of inquiry in Jackson's electro-rock-pop, which sometimes sounds as if it has been written by numbers. The idea that he is universally popular is something of a myth. He only registered in Rolling Stone magazine's 1987 readers' poll in the categories of Worst Male Singer, Hype of the Year, Worst Video ("Bad"), Worst Album Cover (Bad), Most Unwelcome Comeback and Worst-dressed Male Rock Artist, all of which he won hands down.

Try telling that to the 72,000 fans who jumped, cheered, squeaked and waved as he went into the "I Love You London" bit assisted by a gathering of children, led by his 10-year-old touring companion Jimmy Safschuck.

Tarkovsky revisited

OPERA

Boris Godunov Covent Garden

Time's great pendulum swings once again, for the first time since the death of Andrei Tarkovsky, his production of Boris Godunov has returned to the Royal Opera.

Shafis of light focus on the individual within the corporate human agony, like the eye of a camera selecting what we must see and how we must see it. But Tarkovsky's attuning of eye and ear was so apposite that our total vision is extended; and Irina Brown and Stephen Lawless, who have rehearsed this revival, are faithful to his memory.

But it is reminiscence, not recreation, which is now the order of the day. Parly, I suspect, because it is end of term and everyone is tired, but mainly because James Conlon, in the pit, seldom rises above clarity and carefulness, this revival is high on the visual but low on the vision. No-one could truthfully say that it had the creative energy to act on the soul; and Tarkovsky himself demanded no less.

At one end of the scale, the chorus are more weary and ragged than even their historical role requires; at the other end, Robert Lloyd, the original Boris of 1983, clearly misses the stimulus of a



Son support: Boris Godunov (Robert Lloyd) and Feodor (Fiona Kimm)

Tarkovsky as mentor. His performance is carefully paced, minutely observed, but the voice itself fails to expand to search out the Tsar's complexity and greatness of heart.

For a true kindling of response one has to look to the Dimitri of Vladimir Popov, making his British debut. One of the Bolshoi's principal tenors, now living in the United States, Popov's laser-beam of a voice puts his performance in a different dimension: thrilling in isolation, but somewhat disorientating in the company of less inspired colleagues.

Robert Tear's Shuisky returns from the 1985 revival nicely fusing sinuous phrasing with knife-like body movement. It is an efficient, if not chilling performance. Similarly, Gwynne Howell's Pimen, from the original cast,

is benevolent if not authoritative. An untimely knee operation deprived us of a Polish Marina, though Stefania Toczyska is due to take over the tiara for the last two performances. It would, perhaps, be unfair to carp at Eva Randova's obsession with the prompt box.

The casting of the minor parts provides some distraction from the longeurs which surface when the spiritual sap of the production is at low ebb.

Linda Kitchen is a poignant Xenia; Fiona Kimm returns as an ardent Fyodor; and Robin Leggate, seemingly eloquent as the hooded Simpleton, provides one of the most resonant images of the entire evening.

Hilary Finch

Catcher of dreams

TELEVISION

Artists with no memory and no sense of their own work are not ideal subjects for television profiles. Leonard Cohen, poet, singer, articulator of the self-conscious worries of the Seventies, has neither. He cannot remember much of his past, cannot remember where he wrote most of his songs, has no idea whether his music is more important than his poetry.

Fortunately Bob Portway's profile of Cohen for Omnibus (BBC1) had other evidence to draw on, right back to home film of Cohen's childhood in the family clothing business in Montreal and footage of his fringe existence as a Sixties poet.

We had Judy Collins, recalling Cohen's New York debut concert when he stopped in the middle of a song and left the stage ("they loved it... it was very avant-garde to do that") and conjuring up the enviable closeness of their relationship ("We have been in some extremely intimate situations... never as lovers"). There was one long sequence based on Cohen's song "Chelsea Hotel No 2" about his encounter with Janis Joplin in the elevator of that famous New York hostel (I wonder

what would have happened if he had met Virgil Thomson there instead) and a nostalgic trip back to the Greek island of Hydra where he lived - or hung out - for a decade with the wife of someone he noticed walking down the street.

Life seems as hazy and random to Cohen personally as it does in his songs. His past is, as he put it, infinitely wide and without direction. He has never been as successful in American and Britain as in Europe. The attraction of his work cannot be the splendour of his voice - as Cohen's lawyer once said to him, if you want to hear singing then go to the Metropolitan Opera. It must be the way in which, with his drool, his stoop, and his world weariness, Cohen caught a fragment of the decaying American dream (did Dustin Hoffman clone him or was it the other way round?). I would have welcomed more to put Cohen's poetry in context. Cohen's mythologies matched those of an American generation, but while that generation has now turned into lawyers and accountants, Cohen still pursues his lonely way. Acceptance, one felt, would be the worst thing that could happen to him.

William Holmes

Victory for Ogdon

RECITAL

John Ogdon Queen Elizabeth Hall

One attends a performance of Kaikhosru Sorabji's Opus Clavibambalisticum, as someone once remarked in a similar context, because it is there. The gargantuan piano work, written in 1930 by the Chingford-born recluse, who is 96 next month, may have few moments of conventional keyboard beauty, and a great deal that is too grindingly cerebral to be emotionally involving.

But its huge build-ups of clangorous sonorities, its vast length (215 minutes in John Ogdon's stupendous performance last night), its relentless structural complexity and the four-stage strain it places on any pianist's technique and stamina, have all tended to sustain the work's almost mystical aura of ultimate challenge. Sorabji's 40-year ban on all performances of his music (until 1976) has, if anything, intensified that.

The piece emulates Bach's Art of Fugue in its multiplicity of formal schemes, if not in the quality of its thematic material. Fugues that seem to be heading for a massive

peroration, then start again from a completely different angle, canons going forwards, backwards, augmented and diminished; a theme with 49 variations; a passacaglia with 81 - this is the stuff of its 12 mighty movements.

Moreover, Sorabji often seems to add purely ornamental material on top of the ferocious contrapuntal ingenuities. Consequently, the harmonic profile (a free-wheeling polytonality) is at saturation point nearly all the time. Rhythmic inventiveness, on the other hand, is not so evident (at least until the manic final "suretta"), and if the work has a trace of humour it escaped me.

John Ogdon, giving the first complete performance in England (in a Park Lane Group presentation) was simply astonishing. Extract any 10-minute segment from the work and you could find enough technical improbabilities to dissuade any average virtuoso from performance. Ogdon conquered them, one after another, with magnificent resource and sheer guts - the epic chordal cascades, the frenetic chromatic lines racing five ways simultaneously, the complex chains of emphasis needed to make even partial sense of the fugues. Finally, a somewhat stunned audience rose in euphoric acclaim.

Richard Morrison

The man who sits outside

Brubeck is back in London tonight, but still he is not accepted by purists



Brubeck: a victim of his success

There are two undisputed facts about the music of Dave Brubeck - his massive commercial impact in the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the near-unanimous scorn generated in critical circles.

The case for the prosecution was straightforward enough: Brubeck was deemed a second-rate composer who simply could not swing. Benny Green summarized the charges in 1961, the year that "Take Five" sprang into the pop charts. "There is about his playing," he wrote, "a certain ineptitude of phrase which is really astonishing in one so highly regarded, and, most significantly, it is an ineptitude which one usually finds in musicians whose hearts are not really in jazz at all..."

A quarter of a century later, as he rests in his hotel room in Paris, Brubeck still seems bemused by the onslaught. "They've criticized just about everyone I've loved. The musicians I've loved the most - people such as Tatum, Ellington and Miles - have been the people who've been most encouraging to me."

In a sense, Brubeck was a victim of his own success: the jazz fraternity tends to be suspicious of artists with popular appeal. With the more entrenched racial divisions of the 1950s, there was, too, resentment that Brubeck - classically-trained and middle-class - was being feted at the expense of more deserving black composers.

Whatever the shortcomings of his block chord technique or his recent groups, his early quartets, propelled by the alto saxophonist Paul Desmond, certainly produced some marvelous interplay. The 1953 concert at Oberlin College and the College of the Pacific, currently available on compact disc, do much to put the arguments in perspective.

For many of his detractors, however, the success of the album Time Out and the 5/4 curiosity "Take Five" (actually composed by Paul Desmond) was the final straw. Brubeck's critical stock never quite recovered. "The people who accused us of commercialism don't realise that Time Out was an experimental album," Brubeck says.

Much of the inspiration for the different time signatures, he explains, came from meeting mu-

sicians in India and Turkey - hence "Blue Rondo à la Turk". For many non-Americans, the quarter offered a chance to hear jazz for the first time.

The process continued last year when Brubeck made his debut in the Soviet Union, an event celebrated on the album Moscow Nights, released next month. The pianist's classic car came to an end when he parted with Desmond in 1967. Since then, apart from a partnership with Gerry Mulligan and a reunion with Desmond (who was to die in 1977), he has increasingly concentrated on orchestral composition, mainly on religious themes. The critical reception for these works has been even frostier than for his jazz.

Still touring on the jazz circuit at 67, he calculates that he gives about 100 concerts each year. His current band includes his son, Chris, on trombone and electric bass, and the clarinetist Bill Smith, a member of the Brubeck Octet of 1947.

As he reminisces about critics in those early days, he recalls a West Coast tour with Charlie Parker, the giant always regarded as the antithesis of Brubeck conventionality. "There's an old interview with Charlie Parker that you should look up. When my name is mentioned, he says: 'Brubeck's a perfectionist - like I am.' I like that."

Clive Davis

The Dave Brubeck Quartet appears at the JVC/Capitol Jazz Parade, Royal Festival Hall, tonight and at the English Riviera Centre, Torquay, tomorrow.

Advertisement for the London Festival Ballet 1988, London Summer Season. It lists various performances at the London Coliseum, including LA BAYADERE, CARMEN, LE CORSAIRE, and BOLERO, with dates and cast members.

REVIEW

A Lulu of a legend



Unparalleled power to bewitch: Louise Brooks, taken from a collection of her personal photographs now published in Portrait of an Anti-Star

PAPERBACKS

Louise Brooks: Portrait of an Anti-Star, edited by Roland Jaccard (Columbus, £2.95).

There seems little more to be said about Louise Brooks, although that won't stop a man from trying.

No other star had quite such an ability to reduce men's knees to jelly, and their adjectives to purple.

to the legend, but this book is a handy collection of essays, first published in France in 1962, and now translated into English by Gideon Y. Schein.

Easily the best thing about this collection are the photos, which are described as the "largest single collection of her personal photographs".

There still exists enough confusion in audiences' minds about the true nature of film noir for more information on it to be welcome.

round doom. Hence the reason why most of them are thrillers, such as The Maltese Falcon.

Many of them were directed by European émigrés such as Billy Wilder (Double Indemnity), Fritz Lang (The Big Heat), and Robert Siodmak (Cry of the City).

The book does little more than elaborate the basic themes, separated out into chapters such as "Male Icons" and "Femmes Fatales".

rated out into chapters such as "Male Icons" and "Femmes Fatales". I would have liked to see a little more on the technical solutions to the problems posed by film making.

Still, the book is a good basic primer, and the pictures are well chosen. At £9.95, it is the price of two seats to Jacques Tourneur's Out of the Past.

Chris Peachment

NEW PAPERBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

FICTION Anagrams, by Lorrie Moore (Faber, £3.95) Cooky and hip young American girl who makes anagrams out of her life as well as words.

Not That Sort of Girl, by Mary Wesley (Black Swan, £3.95) Marvellously funny love story about a woman who is faithful to two men: if you have not met Wesley, you lack something important about living in 1988.

NON-FICTION Before the Oil Ran Out, by Ian Jack (Flamingo, £3.95) First-division journalist on childhood in Scotland, plus acute survey of changing Britain.

Woody Guthrie, by Joe Klein (Faber, £6.95) Big, rather portentous biography of the American whose songs influenced a generation of songwriters.

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Garden fencing

The Royal Opera House seems to be losing the battle of the sums over its £100 million plan to redevelop Covent Garden and finance opera house improvements.

Members of the South Bank Board management are now required to spend a day working in the Royal Festival Hall box office selling tickets.

Artists looking for sponsors could always try Tony MP John Heald. On Wednesday, with his wife Janet, he personally sponsored a sell-out concert in Lichfield Cathedral.

Will Donald Sinden be the next director of the Chichester Festival when John Gale leaves next summer? Both Keith and Sinden



Keith and Sinden

Sinden, currently playing there in Major Barbara, and Toby Robertson, of Theatre Cymru, are being strongly tipped for the job.

Global warfare On Sam Wanamaker's Globe Theatre project, the rain it rained every day.

Andrew Billen Last week in an item on the Amadeus Quartet we inadvertently published a picture of Siegmund Nissel instead of Peter Schidlof.

Andrew Billen Last week in an item on the Amadeus Quartet we inadvertently published a picture of Siegmund Nissel instead of Peter Schidlof.

Toe tappers

JAZZ RECORDS

Paul Williams Spider Seat Me (Saxophonegraph SP-510) Ornette Coleman Virgin Beauty (Portrait PRT 461193)

Raucous and rocking, poised somewhere between the compact swing of the Harlem "jump" bands and the loose drive of Big Joe Turner's early rock 'n' roll.

two bassists and two drummers of Prime Time, Coleman's avant-garde funk band, has scared off many of those who admired his pioneering acoustic "free jazz" of the early Sixties.

Fast and furious

ROCK RECORDS

Public Enemy It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back (Def Jam DEF 462415) Muddy Waters Hoochie Coochie Man (Epic 461186)

Public Enemy continues to draw inspiration from a bottomless sump of bad attitudes to produce a second album of breathtaking, primal vitality.



Devilry: Muddy Waters

The vitriolic message of extreme black militancy comes across loud and clear, though with some odd twists of logic.

ill-contained, if poorly-defined, fury produces an exhilarating rush of musical energy. In the days long before this kind of anarchic proselytizing became fashionable, simply hearing the young Muddy Waters play the blues on an electric guitar was enough to convince many people that he was in league with the devil.

David Sinclair

Glover's art

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Mozart: Symphonies 34, 35, 39 London Mozart Players/Glover (ASV CD DCA 615)

Four years under the baton of Jane Glover have transformed the London Mozart Players into a band of quicksilver response and neatly tailored, distinctively stylish profile.

raw". It is, if you like, period performance without the period instruments. Scale is paramount: nervous Sforzandi, meticulously clean phrasing and balance of textures lightens the tread of the Symphony No. 34.

Hilary Finch

BRIDGE

Roar of young lions

In recent times the final stages of the Gold Cup, the Blue Riband of British bridge, have suffered from a lack of atmosphere and a dearth of spectators.

Table with columns W, N, E, S and rows of scores.

Collings reasonably decided that East's failure to switch to hearts at trick three strongly suggested that he held the ♠Q.

Two of the most successful schools to have competed in the British Schools' Championship, sponsored by The Times, are Bolton School and St Paul's School, London.

CHESS

Class mates

The St Paul's player has found the most energetic way to exploit his advantage. By rushing forward his extra pawn on the Queen's wing he rips apart the last vestiges of protection for the White King.

Nathoo lost to Tom Price. St Paul's players took the White pieces on the odd numbered boards.

The following game won the special prize offered by Batsford Books for the best game played in the final: White: Nicholas Jakubovics (Abingdon School); Black: James Cavendish (St Paul's), King's Indian Defence.

White resigned. The Times Network System for Schools, which offers all secondary schools on-line education databases and a sophisticated electronic mail service, will be giving additional prizes for next year's competition.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1617

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, July 21. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E14 9XN.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbered squares and clues for Across and Down.

SOLUTION TO NO 1616 ACROSS: 1 Pests, 4 Custom, 9 Doublet, 10 Train, 11 Jilt, 12 Promoter, 14 Cohort, 15 Stoned, 18 Hoarding, 20 Quay, 22 Brown, 23 Prophet, 25 Sazen, 26 Player, 27 Unlame, 4 Tract, 7 Man Friday, 8 Start, 11 Jack Hobbs, 13 Credence, 16 Naughty, 17 Saus, 19 Adapt, 21 Soil, 24 Tor.

THE WEEK AHEAD



GALLERIES

NAKED LIGHTS: Bernard Dunstan paints in that traditional style against which many younger artists have reacted.



DANCE

LEAPS AND BOUNDS: Julio Bocca, born in Buenos Aires, leapt to fame by winning the gold medal in the 1985 Moscow International Ballet Competition.



CONCERTS

MANZONI MUSIC: Sir John Pritchard opens the 94th season of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts at the Royal Albert Hall on Friday.



BOOKS

HANGED - FOR LOVE: Edith Thompson has haunted the conscience of the nation since her execution at Holloway prison in 1923.



CINEMA

FUNNY BUSINESS: Dan Aykroyd is up to crazy mischief in The Couch Trip (15) - he plays an anarchic prisoner who escapes, impersonates a psychiatrist, takes over a radio phone-in show, and becomes a media celebrity.



THEATRE

BROTHERLY LOVE: Kid Dee returns to the West End on Wednesday when Willy Russell's musical Blood Brothers starts previews.

THEATRE LONDON

BLOOD BROTHERS: Willy Russell's award-winning musical returns to the West End, now with Klu Dee. Bob Thomson directs. Bill Kenwright/Queens Theatre Hornchurch production in association with Bob Swash.

PROMS 94/1

PROMS 94/1: The 94th season of Promenade Concerts opens with Verdi's Requiem. Sir John Pritchard conducts the Bach Choir London, Philharmonic Choir, BBC Symphony Chorus, BBC Symphony Orchestra and many others.

RADIO

A ROYAL HOUSEHOLD: Play by Susannah Greenberg with Patricia Hayes as an old lady who shares a birthday with the Queen facing eviction from her high-rise flat.

OUT OF TOWN

EDINBURGH: Mary Rose: J.M. Barrie 'time play' in a new production. Royal Lyceum (031 229 9697). Free previews Thurs. Opens Fri.

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: A single, and penultimate, performance of Don Giovanni on Tues at 7pm, Boris Godunov takes up the rest of the week with Robert Lloyd leading the cast tonight, Wed and Fri at 6.30pm.

GLYNEDBOURNE FESTIVAL: Glyndebourne tomorrow at 4.30pm and Wed and Fri at 5.30pm. Tonight, Tues and Sat July 23 at 5.50pm, further performances of La Traviata with Fiorella Pediconi, Glyndebourne, Lewis, East Sussex (0273 541111).

DANCE

LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET: Besides Julio Bocca (see top of page), there are a host of guest and other star performances this week. The company revives Petruska (Wed) and Christopher Bruce makes his debut in the title role Thurs. Lynne Charles, an American dancer now with Bajor's company, dances Tatiana in Onegin (Fri), and Lynn Seymour on July 23. There are two more performances of Swan Lake today: La Bayadere, and Carmen (Mon, Tues), and Bruce's dramatic Lord (Wed, Thurs). Coliseum, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

MOSCOW CLASSICAL BALLET: The Glasgow Week closes today, then Manchester. Mon, July 23, with Swan Lake and two gala programmes. Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041 331 1234), Palace Theatre, Manchester (061 236 9922).

ROCK

MICHAEL JACKSON: Wacko's historic run of concerts continues. Tonight, Fri and Sat 23, Wembley Stadium, Middlesex (01-902 1234).

TELEVISION

A WOMAN ALONE: Lynn Redgrave as the housewife with all mod cons but an unfulfilled emotional life in the play by Italian writers Dario Fo and Franca Rame. BBC2, Wed, 9.25-10.15pm.

GALLERIES

MOMENTS OF THE SUN: Pyrotechnically colourful paintings of sunsets over the Orwell estuary in Suffolk by Maggi Hambling, Arno Fini, Bristol (0272-299191). From today.

STEPHEN COX: Carvings made under the influence of southern India where, with British Council support, this sculptor has recently worked. Artsite, Bath (0225-61659). From today.

JAZZ

BOBBY McFERRIN: Vocal gymnastics re-creating everything from 'Round Midnight' to the Beatles' 'Drive My Car'. Victoria Palace Theatre, London SW1 (01-828 2610) tomorrow.

MEL LEWIS: With his exuberant Jazz Orchestra, the American drummer has assumed Buddy Rich's mantle. Wigan Jazz Festival (info 0942 827627/828076) tonight; Ronnie Scott's Club, London W1 (01-439 0747) Mon to Sat.

PHOTOGRAPHY

CROWN AND COUNTRY: Exhibition of photographs of and by the Royal Family between 1842 and 1910, first shown at the Queen's Gallery in London. National Museum of Film and Photography, Prince's View, Bradford, West Yorkshire (0274 727488) until 13 Nov.

WORKING THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH: Documentary pictures by 25 photographers of mining from all corners of the globe. Impressionary Gallery, 17 Collierygate, York (0904 654724) July 23 to Sept 3.

FILMS ON TV

100 MEN AND A GIRL (1937): Deanna Durbin as the little girl who charms maestro Leopold Stokowski into conducting her father's orchestra of unemployed musicians. Channel 4, Mon, 2-3.30pm.

THE GREAT MOMENT (1943): Preston Sturges's offbeat comedy-drama about the 19th century dentist, William Morton (Joel McCrea), who is supposed to have discovered anaesthetics. Channel 4, Tues, 2.30-4pm.

COMING HOME (1978): Jane Fonda as the lonely wife who has an affair with a paralysed veteran (Jon Voight) while husband (Bruce Dern) is away fighting in Vietnam. Channel 4, Fri, 12.20-2.40am.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE KING'S SINGERS: Season includes premieres of Daryl Runswick's

There are changes afoot at Sun Hill Police Station as ITV's quality cop show, The Bill, changes format to two half-hour episodes every week.

IN TWO MINDS: Anna Cropper as the young schizophrenic in a re-run of David Mercer's remarkable 1967 play, directed by Ken Loach. BBC1, Thurs, 9.30-9.45pm.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

SATURDAY

BBC1 WALES: 6.55am-7.00 Sports News Wales. 7.00am-7.15am Sports News Wales. 7.15am-7.30am Sports News Wales. 7.30am-7.45am Sports News Wales.

SUNDAY

BBC1 WALES: 12.30pm-12.55pm News and weather. 1.00pm-1.15pm Sports News Wales. 1.15pm-1.30pm Sports News Wales.

Celebrations for Sir Gay

The centenary of Sergei Eisenstein's birth and the 50th anniversary of his death both fall in 1988. But the world cannot wait: spurred on by the wealth of new material now available in Russia, Eisenstein scholars have already launched the festivities.



Man and mouse: Eisenstein meets Mickey Mouse at the Walt Disney Studios in Hollywood in 1936

art form (the major films can be seen in Oxford at the Phoenix Cinema over two weekends, July 22-24 and August 5-7). Eisenstein always found it difficult dealing with bureaucracies, whether they were political chiefs in Moscow or studio bosses in Hollywood, where he met Chaplin and Mickey Mouse but failed to get a film off the ground. Yet, along with many Soviet artists, he learned how to survive: in the hostile climate of the Thirties, he spent much time

teaching. New translations of his writings and lectures are now being published by the British Film Institute: the first volume, covering 1922 to 1934, appeared in March. The exhibition's last section is headed 'Into the Darkness'. Amidst the muddle and agony of war, we see Eisenstein preparing his historical epic Ivan the Terrible. He suffered a serious heart-attack, and expended much-needed energy trying to mollify Stalin, who loathed the film's second part. In theory it sounds like a gloomy last chapter. But you only need glance at the exhibition and its attendant hoop-la to realize that - 40 years after his death - Eisenstein remains jubilantly alive and kicking. Geoff Brown

WORD-WATCHING Answers from page 24 PAWE (a) Scottish and northern English dialect for a trick or conning mischief, cf. pawky, origin unknown: 'And other London park he played.' UNMUN (c) To defrock a nun, etymology obvious: 'Mary did quickly unman and defrock themselves.' ASTUCIOUS (c) Astute, from the Latin astutus meaning 'wily'. 'Like all astute persons, as deserts of looking into the hearts of others as of concealing his own.' STENDAHL (a) To go through something slow by slow, step by step, as Marie Henri Beyle (Stendhal) describes Julian Sorel's seduction of Mme de Rênal in the garden in Le Rouge et Le Noir.

SATURDAY

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

SUNDAY

CHOICE

substantive on the tradition of the Hollywood screwball comedy and with echoes of the lighter type of Hitchcock thriller. Ticket to Ride (ITV, 8.00pm) is just the thing for an undemanding Saturday evening. Anthony Andrews and an extrovert American actress, Margaret Whitton, play a couple who used to be married and used to co-present a television travel show. But the marriage has ended (he is about to be re-married) and he is giving up showbusiness to resume his former life as an academic. The basic joke of this pilot episode (a series follows next year) is that he will not let him go. Her intrigues not only sabotage his wedding plans but lead him and his fiancée (Susan Woodruff) to be taken hostage by jewel thieves. With a wisecracking script by Peachy Markowitz, and moving enjoyably through its Italian locations to a climax (one of the Hitchcock echoes) in the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Ticket to Ride sets modest ambitions but works splendidly within them. Another Hitchcock echo is that the director, Richard Franklin, made Psycho II. But this time he is a very long way from the Bates Motel.

Peter Waymark



Margaret Whitton as the TV presenter trying to woo her ex-husband back on to her show and into her life (ITV, 8.00pm)



Stefania Powers as Beryl Markham, whose extraordinary life out in Kenya is the subject of a mini-series (ITV, 7.45pm)

CHOICE

The cinema having had its fling with *Out of Africa* and *White Mischief*, it is now television's turn to milk drama from the lives and loves of the white socialites of Kenya. *A Shadow on the Sun* (ITV, 7.45pm, continuing tomorrow, 9.00pm) is a biopic of Beryl Markham, who went out to Africa as a toddler, trained racehorses, had three marriages and many more affairs (including one with the Duke of Gloucester) and was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic to America. Clutching a gin bottle and affecting a Joan Greenwood voice, Stefania Powers plays

Beryl in her eighties, telling her story to a journalist. And then it is into flashback, with Stefania playing the younger Beryl against the competition of handsome African locations and an all-star cast. Written by Allan Scott (of *Nicolas Roeg's Don't Look Now*) and directed by the former young lion of the British cinema, Tony Richardson, *A Shadow on the Sun* is an intelligent, well-made mini-series which suffers from too much story and not enough plot. It is a succession of self-contained incidents which offer little opportunity for the development of dramatic tension.

P.W.

BBC1

- 6.45 Open University.
6.55 The Kid (r). 8.30 The Family Nees (r). 8.35 The Muppet Babies (r).
9.00 UP21. This first of a new live magazine series includes Jonathan King celebrating 25 years of Status Quo and Nicky Attfield narrating the Cheshire canals.
10.05 Cartoon.
11.00 Film: The Red Pony (1949) starring Myrna Loy and Robert Montgomery. The story of a young boy who devotes all his time to his pony, oblivious to the trouble brewing around him. With Peter Miles. Directed by Lewis Milestone. 12.27 Weather.
12.30 Grandstand.
12.35 The Line-up. The line-up is (subject to alteration): 12.35, 2.05, 2.35 and 3.05 Golf: The Open Championship; 4.00 News summary; 1.55, 2.25 and 2.55 Racing from Newbury; 6.35 Final score.
6.45 News with Moira Stuart. Weather.
7.55 Regional news/sport.
7.50 World Rock 'n' Roll Trophy introduced by Joe Brown from the Hammermith Palais, London. The guests are Suzi Quatro and Showaddywaddy.
7.45 The Les Dennis Laughter Show. The last in the comedy and music series. (Ceefax).
8.20 Columbus: Swan Song. The shuffling stunts is on the trail of an evangelist who organizes his wife's death when she refuses to give him a larger share of the profits from their gospel concerts. Starring Christopher Walken, Johnny Cash and Ian Lipson.
9.55 News and Sport. With Moira Stuart. Weather.
10.10 Call Me Mister. Episode two of the eight-part drama serial. Jack Nicholson is offered a job as a 'legman' with the City Investigation Bureau. His first task is to trace a missing yacht. Starring Steve Buscemi and David Bamber (r). (Ceefax).
11.05 Film: The Swans (1978) starring Michael Caine, Katharine Ross, Henry Fonda and Steve Kanaly. Disaster movie about a swarm of African killer bees heading for Houston after creating havoc and causing death at an air force missile base. Directed by Irwin Allen. 1.00am Weather.

BBC2

- 6.50 Open University.
2.45 Shrikant. Episode eight of the 10-part Indian serial. English subtitles.
3.25 The Captain from Castille (1947) starring Tyrone Power. Swashbuckling yarn about a young Spanish nobleman who joins up with Cortez's conquistadors as they take Mexico by storm. Directed by Henry King.
5.40 The Sky at Night. Patrick Moore guides us through the summer sky (r).
6.00 Film: Beyond the Clouds (1983) starring Andrei Mironov and Tatyana Akysytova. Fantasy tale of an orphan boy who finds gold and who is kidnapped. His sister sets out to find him. Directed by Alexander Mitka. English version written and directed by Guy Robertson.
7.40 NewsView with Moira Stuart and Richard Whitson. Weather.
8.20 The Rare Breed (1965) starring James Stewart, Maureen O'Hara and Brian Keith. Western about a woman and her daughter who arrive in the United States from Britain with a prize Hereford bull that she hopes will be her fortune when he breeds with American longhorns. Directed by Andrew V. McLaglen. (Ceefax).
9.55 Open Space: Inside the Prison Officers' Film. The second of two films showing what day-to-day life is like in Swansea prison, tonight from the point of view of prison officers. The film was made under editorial control with no interference from the prison authorities or the Home Office.
10.45 Film: Helmut (colour and b/w) (1984) starring Maria Bener and Rüdiger Wegner. Episode four of the 11-part serial and it is now 1938 and 6,000 men arrive in the Hunzrück area to build a new road between Obermer and Trier. Directed by Edgar Reitz (r).
11.45 International Golf. Highlights of the third round of the Open Championship.
12.25 Kenny and Dolly. Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton in concert at Portland, Oregon (r). Ends at 1.25.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am includes news and weather at 9.20.
8.25 Get Fresh at the Glasgow Garden Festival.
11.30 Punky Brewster.
12.00 Wrestling from Walthamstow Assembly Hall.
1.00 News. 1.05 LWT News and weather followed by Film: Cobles (1982) starring Gordon Mitchell. Drama about the Greek hero, helping his country's army in the war against the Trojans. Directed by Marino Girolami.
3.00 International.
3.05 The Kodak Classic from Gatehead.
5.00 News with Sue Carpenter.
5.05 LWT News and weather.
5.10 A.L.F. Adventures of an Alien Life Form in suburban America.
5.40 The Hulk (1977) starring Bill Bixby and Susan Sullivan. A made-for-television yarn about a scientist who, when angered, transforms himself into a seven-foot tall half man/half beast creature with incredible strength. Directed by Kenneth Johnson.
7.30 Tarby's Frame Game. Fast-moving game show presented by Jimmy Tarbuck.
8.00 Ticket to Ride. (see Choice).
9.10 News and sport. 9.25 LWT Weather.
9.30 The Unexpected: The Reconciliation, starring Roger Rees, Meg Davies and John Castle. A husband who wants a divorce hires a detective to follow his wife in order to see if she is being unfaithful (r). (Oracle).
10.00 Parkinson One-To-One. Michael Parkinson's guest is musician and actor Phil Collins.
10.45 Film: Urban Cowboy (1980) starring John Travolta, Debi Wagner and Scott Glenn. A young man, newly arrived in Houston, becomes obsessed with a bar room girl whom he marries and with a honky-tonk's mechanical rodeo bull. Directed by James Bridges.
1.00 Night Network with Ozzie Frund in bed with Ozzy Osbourne and live music from Pop Will Eat Itself.
4.00 Major Indoor Soccer League.
5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00.

CHANNEL 4

- 9.30 Same Difference (r).
10.04 What's Worth (r).
10.30 Film: Strike Me Pink (1936, b/w) starring Eddie Cantor and Ethel Merman. Comedy musical about a quiet young man who changes his personality in time to foil gangsters from taking over an amusement park's gaming machines. Directed by Norman Taurog.
12.20 Mago's Private War. Carol 130 Empress WU. Episode 38 (of 65).
1.00 Film: Call Northside 777 (1947, b/w) starring Richard Conte and Lee J. Cobb. An investigative newspaper reporter spots a potential column advertisement that leads him to review a murder case for which a man has already served 12 years of a life sentence. Directed by Henry Hathaway.
3.05 Channel 4 Racing.
3.15, 3.45, 4.15 and 4.45 races.
5.05 Brookside (r). (Oracle).
6.00 Resolution - The first of four reports from the 1988 Lambeth Conference.
6.30 Tour de France 1988. On the way to keep a review of the Tour so far.
7.00 News summary and weather followed by Odyssey. Film from the Amazon jungle; the Madagascars; the Canadian prairies; Ethiopia; and the South American coast (r).
8.00 News - The Unknown War. This fifth of six films tracing the causes, course and consequences of the conflict examines the progress of the regrettably slow armistice talks of 1951 and 1952.
9.00 Film on Four Extra: Read Menarch (1982) starring Colin Blakely, David Suchet and Carol Baker. A black comedy set in the Kramlin and John Latham play roles. Directed by Jack Gold.
10.55 Just For Laughs. More acts from Montreal's international comedy festival, including tonight, Larry Henry (r).
11.25 After Dark. An open-ended discussion on the workings of British intelligence. Among those taking part are Mervyn Rees and H. Montgomery Hyde.

BBC1

- 6.45 Open University. Ends at 8.50.
8.55 Play School (r). 9.15 Umbrella. Children's religious series (r).
9.30 This is the way from Castletary on the Isle of Barra.
10.00 Film: Megaforce (1982) starring Barry Bostwick. Science fiction adventure in which the forces of evil fight those of the good. Directed by Hal Needham.
11.35 Having a Baby. Part three - preparing for labour (r). (Ceefax).
12.05 The Unknown War. An episode from a 1983 Russell Harty chat show, adapted for the hearing impaired.
12.30 ITN News. A programme of the series features a report on farming in Israel 12.58 Weather.
1.00 News. 1.05 Bonanza. Western adventures. 1.50 Cartoon 2.00 EastEnders (r). (Ceefax).
3.00 Film: Billeted (1965) starring Rock Hudson and Claudia Cardinale. A light-hearted thriller about a psychologist who is hired by the United States Security Agency to treat an unnamed patient. The patient's sister believes it is a plot to keep her brother a prisoner. Directed by Philip Dunne.
4.40 Head of the Class. American comedy series set in a high school.
5.05 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time.
5.30 The Living Planet. Part six: The Taking Desert (r). (Ceefax).
6.25 News with Moira Stuart. Weather.
6.40 Home on Sunday. Cliff Michelmore visits Mary Scher at her home in Grantham. (Ceefax).
7.15 A Question of Entertainment. Showbiz quiz. (Ceefax).
7.45 'Allo 'Allo! René is surrounded by sausages - one of them stuffed with dynamite (r). (Ceefax).
8.15 Anastasia. Part two of the dramatization of the mysterious disappearance of the Arina Anderson. (Ceefax).
9.45 News and weather.
10.00 Heart of the Matter. Joan Bakewell in conversation with the Dutch Reform Church leader, the Rev Allan Boesak.
10.35 Heirs and Graces. In this first of a new series on the nation's Victoria houses Lady Woburn Abbey.
11.05 Shrikant (r).
11.45 Weather.

BBC2

- 6.50 Open University: Technology - A Milk Run 7.15 Statistics.
7.40 The Marriage of Figaro.
8.05 The Social Impact of Rapid Industrialization.
8.30 Physics: Gaseous Diffusion.
8.55 Pure Maths: In Perspective.
9.20 Conflict 2: The Steel Strike.
9.45 The Leathart Collection.
10.10 Volunteers and Social Management.
10.35 Maths: Scaling and Powers.
11.00 The Kenyan Small Farmer.
11.25 Science: Fires.
11.50 Maths: Differential Equations.
12.15 Biology: Osmoregulation.
12.40 Where Has All the Great Husbands Gone?
1.05 Hawk of the Wilderness (b/w).
1.20 Wild and Woolly. A feature cartoon (r).
1.30 Sunday Grandstand: Rugby League: World Cup qualifying game between Great Britain and New Zealand. The final round of the 117th Open Championship from Royal Lyman and St Annes Golf Club.
NB: programme times after the Open Golf are approximate.
6.50 Rough Guide to Europe. Margenta De Vine and Sankha Gupta visit Paris, a alternative tourist spots (r).
7.45 The Waugh Trilogy. This third and last programme focuses on Evelyn Waugh's last two decades during which he ignored the outside world and increasingly brooded on mortality. With contributions from his priest, neighbours and family (r).
8.45 Beethoven Plays Schubert. In this first of a new series Alfred Brendel plays Schubert's Piano Sonata in C minor (1808).
9.15 International Golf. The final round of the Open, introduced by Ian Porter.
10.00 Film: The Long Goodbye. A two of the four-part thriller starring Brian Murray. (Ceefax).
10.50 Movieclips. Alex Cox introducing the film: The Graduate (1967) starring Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway. A journalist who witnessed an assassination case years ago learns that other witnesses to the killing have died in mysterious circumstances. Directed by Alan J. Pakula. Ends at 12.35am.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am.
8.30 David Frost on Sunday.
9.25 Cartoon Time (r).
9.30 Get Fresh Sunday. Includes a preview of two new space flight videos.
10.00 Morning Worship. The morning service of the 1988 Lambeth Conference.
12.00 Jobwatch. How the engineering company Harry Spicer survived the business trough of the early 1980s.
12.30 The Campbells. Adventures of a Scottish pioneering family in Canada.
1.00 LWT News and weather. 1.05 Police 5 with Shaw Taylor.
1.15 LWT Action.
1.20 Link. An interview with Peter Dinklage. 1.35 The Struwwel (r).
2.00 Revelations. Susan Hampshire talks about her beliefs.
2.30 Film: The Biggest Bank Robbery (1980) starring Richard Jordan, David Niven and Gloria Grahame. A made-for-television adventure about a newly-released-from-prison ex-convict who lands a job in a bank. Directed by Ralph Thomas.
4.25 Barbados or Bust. The story of a yacht race from the Canaries to Barbados.
5.25 The Good Life Guide. How to throw a successful party (r).
5.55 All Cried Up.
6.25 News. 6.30 LWT News and weather.
6.35 Appeal by Bob Holmes on behalf of Children's Community Holidays.
6.40 Marching As To War. Continuing the story of the Salvation Army.
7.15 Family Fortunes.
7.45 A Shadow on the Sun. (Oracle) (see Choice).
9.40 News. 9.55 LWT Weather.
10.00 The ITV Play: The Moneybags by Tony Marchant, John Vine and Caroline Bliss star in this drama set in a top City bank. (Oracle).
11.25 Men on Violence. The first of a new series on what is the cause of violent crime.
11.55 The Making of Modern London (r).
12.25 The Colorado Canyon. Film of the Grand Canyon.
1.00 Night Network. The People's Choice Awards.
3.00 Outdoor Life.
3.30 Ben Casey (b/w).
4.30 The Magic Wok.
5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00.

CHANNEL 4

- 9.25 Teesra Kinara. Episode 15 of the 26-part Pakistani drama serial.
9.50 Settlers' Tales. First generation Asian immigrants. The World This Week. Reports on the Democratic convention and the Warsaw Pact meeting. Plus an interview with Andimba Tovo Ja Tovo, secretary-general of Namibia's guerrilla forces. Swaps. Includes reports on Britain's five richest young people; the Gascrachers' Ball; and chessboard journalism. 1.00 Wired. Pop music (r).
2.00 Lost in Space (b/w). Episode 23 of the vintage science-fiction serial.
3.00 Film: State Secret (1950, b/w) starring Douglas Fairbanks Jr, Glynnis Johns and Jack Hawkins. Thriller about an American surgeon on the run in an Eastern European state.
4.55 News summary and weather. 5.00 Hot House People. The first of four programmes on enhancing people's potential, especially parents of babies (r). (Oracle).
6.00 Tour de France 1988. Stage 14 - Bagnac to Guzet Neige. A distance of 167km.
7.15 The Air Fix. A new series about aircraft safety, presented by James Castle and using a mixture of drama and black comedy. (Oracle).
8.15 Virtuoso. The first of a new four-part series celebrating the life and work of some of the world's greatest virtuoso performers, beginning with violinist Joseph Beethoven.
9.15 Movie Classics. Norman Hassan discusses Akira Kurosawa's Seven Samurai with students from the National Film and Television School.
10.30 Film: Seven Samurai (1954, b/w) starring Takashi Shimura and Toshirō Mifune. Kurosawa's dramatic masterpiece about warriors hired to protect villagers from marauding bandits in 16th century China. Ends at 12.00am.

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WORLD SERVICE

- All times in GMT. Add an hour for BST.
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MARKETS		THE POUND	
FT 30 Share	1497.5 (+0.8)	US dollar	1.8825 (-0.0275)
FT-SE 100	1861.5 (-1.8)	W German mark	3.1172 (-0.0009)
USM (Datastream)	164.81 (+0.23)	Trade-weighted	74.6 (-0.5)

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

LIT profit slumps to £3.5m

LIT Holdings, the commodity and futures broker, has seen almost half of its profits evaporate in the wake of the October crash.

Mr John Botts, who was appointed chairman when Mr Paul Dupree resigned last January, yesterday unveiled pre-tax profits of £3.5 million for the year ended March, compared with £6.02 million previously.

Earnings per share have tumbled from 3.65p to 2.03p, but an 0.96p final dividend pegs the total at 1.5p. There was an exceptional loss of £1.31 million which included a provision for customer defaults and other trading losses last October.

The group was not directly hit by the crash - it does not trade as a principal - but it suffered in the aftermath. But Mr Botts said the group is now "in a much better condition to withstand and benefit from the inevitable volatilities and opportunities of international financial markets."

STOCK MARKETS	
New York	Dow Jones 2118.44 (-0.18)
Tokyo	Nikkei Average 27913.79 (-170.29)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng 2740.70 (-12.26)
Amsterdam	Gen 266.5 (+0.3)
Sydney	AO 1622.5 (+7.4)
Frankfurt	Commerzbank 1494.8 (+6.7)
Brussels	General 354.1 (-1.1)
Paris	CAC 504.7 (+32.5)
Zurich	SKA Gen 504.7 (+32.5)
London	FT-All Share 988.59 (-0.92)
FT-30	1497.5 (+0.8)
FT-Gold Mines	223.7 (-1.7)
FT-Fixed Interest	87.24 (+0.05)
FT-Govt Secs	87.52 (-0.26)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES	
British Aerospace	490p (+19p)
Yale & Valer	465p (+16p)
Redfern	470p (+14p)
Meat Trade Supp	312p (+30p)
Barbour Index	255p (+10p)
Blackleys	385p (+10p)
Allied Irish	278p (+18p)
MAM	365p (+15p)
Johnson	450p (+10p)
Walker Greenbank	127p (+12p)
Lax	405p (+12p)
Independent	475p (+10p)
Daves & Newman	725p (+20p)
Dweek	145p (+16p)
Mervale Moore	430p (+10p)

INTEREST RATES	
London Bank Base	10%
3-month interbank	10 1/2-10 3/4%
3-month eligible bills	10 1/2-10 3/4%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	9 1/4%
Federal Funds	7 1/4-7 1/2%
3-month Treasury Bills	8.78-8.77%
30-year bonds	9 1/2-9 3/4%

CURRENCIES	
London	New York
£ \$1.8825	£ \$1.8845
£ DM3.1172	£ DM1.9755
£ Sfr2.1581	£ Sfr1.5545
£ FF10.4821	£ FF6.3280
£ Yen224.94	£ Yen153.25
£ Index:74.6	£ Index:59.4
ECU £0.66457	SDR £0.77100

GOLD	
London Fixing	AM \$438.10 PM \$439.10
close \$438.00-438.50	(2833.00-2835.50)
New York	Comex \$439.40-439.90

NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent (Aug.)	pm \$14.05bbi (\$14.05)
* Denotes latest trading price	

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

Recent additions include: English and Overseas Properties 03334; Shani Group 02932; Drayton Far East Investment Trust 03174; Neelker Group 03194; John Tatts 03195; Sanwa Bank 07227; Eurocopy 03177; Jackson Group 03185; City of London Public Relations 03352; Hilcare 03355; Severfield-Reeve 03366; Colefax and Fowler 03369; Builder Group 03373; BMSS 03376; Lincat 03377; British Gas Restricted Transfer 03378; Prospective Group Referred 03379; Rockfort Group (03382); Eroston Group (03383); Heritage (03381); Prestwick Holdings 7 1/2% conv pref 03384; CLF Holdings conv pref 03384; Calls charged at 5p for 8 seconds peak and 12 seconds off peak incl VAT.

Base rates to hit 11% as inflation leaps

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Base rates are set to rise again next week, possibly by a full percentage point, in response to inflationary pressures in the economy and a weaker pound. The rate of inflation is likely to reach 5 per cent soon, and is heading higher.

Money market interest rates rose yesterday, partly in response to the announcement of a fourth successive monthly increase in retail price inflation. At present levels, the money markets are discounting a rise in base rates from 10 to 10.5 per cent. Money supply figures due on Wednesday are expected to be poor.

But analysts said the Chancellor may break the pattern of half-point rate increases, of which there have been five since early June, to underline his anti-inflationary commitment. This would mean raising rates from 10 to 11 per cent, and push up mortgage rates to between 11.5 and 12 per cent.

Treasury officials refused to comment on a possible rise in interest rates next week, but they dismissed reports of a dispute between the Prime Minister and the Chancellor on interest rate policy, with Mrs Thatcher said to be demanding an immediate increase to 12 per cent.

The rate of inflation last month was 4.6 per cent, its highest since February 1986 and up from 4.2 per cent in May. Since reaching a low of 3.3 per cent in January-February, inflation has picked up in the latest six months the annualized rate was 6.5 per cent.

The index of retail prices rose to 106.6 last month (January 1987 = 100), an increase of 0.4 per cent from its level of 106.2 in May. Higher prices for motor vehicles, petrol, gas and electricity (the third tranche of the present price increases), non-seasonal foods and clothing pushed up the index.

The index appears to be rising by 0.4 per cent a month; on this basis the inflation rate will breach 5 per cent when the July figures are published in a month's time. A mortgage rate rise on top of the stronger underlying increase in prices could mean 5.5 per cent inflation in August.

Mr Keith Skeoch, economist at James Capel, said the inflation rate was unlikely to come down below 5 per cent for the next 18 months. "We could see a one-point base rate rise on Monday or Tuesday," he said. "If it is only half it won't be enough."

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, said: "As the Chancellor has already made clear, he is not prepared to take risks with inflation and in raising interest rates has taken the necessary steps to reduce the pressure on prices."

"The current rate of inflation needs to be kept in perspective. It remains well below the increase in earnings."

In response, Mr Bill Martin, chief UK economist at Phillips & Drew, the broker, said: "I was astonished that Norman Fowler should choose to say that inflation was below average earnings growth."

"If 8.5 per cent is the yardstick for inflation, that is extremely worrying. Base rates need to rise, and it is a question of whether they go for half or the full 1 per cent."

Money market sentiment changed dramatically. On Thursday, the markets seemed content with 10 per cent base rates. Yesterday, the three-month interbank rate closed at 10 1/2-10 3/4 per cent.

Mr David Smith, economist at Williams de Broe Hill, the broker, said that if the Chancellor was serious about reining back credit growth, base rates could have to rise to 13 per cent, as during the Barber boom in 1973.

Central bank intervention fails to halt dollar's surge

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The dollar surged against all currencies yesterday, overcoming central bank intervention, after the publication of figures showing a narrower-than-expected United States trade deficit in May.

Dealers said that the dollar was boosted by market relief that the US trade improvement was holding up, and by hardening US interest rates.

The trade deficit widened only slightly in May to \$10.93 billion (\$5.6 billion), from a revised \$10.3 billion (\$5.2 billion) in April. Market expectations had been for a \$11-11.5 billion deficit.

The dollar, which was strong ahead of the figures, closed three pence up at DM1.8750, its best for a year, and rose from Y135 to Y135.30. The pound was pushed down by 2.75 cents to \$1.6625.

The surge was in spite of intervention by European central banks, led by the West German Bundesbank and including the Bank of England. Another rise in European interest rates next week was a strong possibility, analysts said.

"There is an underlying bullish dollar sentiment and the markets no longer believe that the policy of stabilizing exchange rates is in place," said Mr David Morrison, the chief international economist at Goldman Sachs, the securities house.

US exports continued to gain in May, rising by 2.3 per cent to \$26.6 billion but imports were also strong, rising by 3.4 per cent to \$37.6 billion. However, the rise in imports largely reflected a 17.7 per cent increase in the value of oil imports. Analysts said non-oil imports were encouragingly weak.

Mr Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, said this week that he expected further gains in exports to provide the most dramatic stimulus to US growth this year and next, reflecting the delayed response to the sharp decline in the dollar in 1987.

The trade figures were released as Washington officials announced that inflation, as measured by wholesale prices, rose by a moderate 0.4 per cent in June.

Amex card launched in China

Peking (Reuters) - American Express has launched its gold and corporate credit cards in China, and said it is aiming initially at a market of more than 400,000 state companies. Officials said the cards would be issued through three domestic financial institutions - the Bank of China, the Bank of Communications and the China International Trust and Investment Corp Industrial Bank.

Mastercard was the first foreign credit card to be issued in China, where most payments are still made in cash.

Mr Louis Gerstner, president of American Express, said the company's corporate card was likely to be most successful as China's reforms encourage the expansion of the private sector.

American Express cards are already accepted in China.

Courtaulds sells S African interests in £207m deal

By Our City Staff

Courtaulds is effectively quitting South Africa by selling its dissolving pulp interests in Natal and its shareholding in the Usutu Paper Company of Swaziland to a South African-led consortium for a net £207 million.

The group says the decision to sell its woodpulp interests to a consortium led by South Africa's largest pulp and paper company, Sappi, was made solely on commercial grounds, and that there was no political considerations involved.

Courtaulds has been involved with South Africa since the mid-1950s. Through the sale, the group's South African workforce shrinks from 10,720 to 710.

It retains a handful of small businesses in South Africa, and has agreed a long-term supply contract for the various plants' production with the new owners.

Courtaulds will suffer an estimated £40 million profits setback, equivalent to 1p a share earnings dilution, from the sale of interests which contributed a net £23 million to last year's annual earnings.

However, the sale releases funds otherwise committed to woodpulp which could be used for growth opportunities.

Sir Christopher Hogg, Courtaulds's chairman, said the woodpulp interests were not "core" to the group, and would have required an ongoing commitment to spend considerable amounts of capital.

"Given the competing demands for investment from our other business sectors we decided some time ago that this business, despite its strength, could not offer Courtaulds a long-term growth opportunity," he added.

The sale has taken seven months to finalize, and Courtaulds will in August receive a net £207 million payable outside of South Africa.

The effect will be to clear Courtaulds of all gearing, which stood at 25 per cent at last balance sheet date, and leave it with a small cash sum.

Courtaulds said that Mr Kerry Packer, the Australian entrepreneur who with associated family interests recently moved on to the share register, had in recent weeks raised his stake in Courtaulds from 3.5 per cent to 4 per cent.

Winding-up petition for DPR Futures

By Lawrence Lever

The Securities and Investments Board yesterday successfully petitioned the High Court to wind up DPR Futures, the futures and options dealer, which the SIB suspended on Monday and is now investigating.

At the same time the Serious Fraud Office is believed to have decided to conduct an investigation into the way DPR conducted its business.

The company specialized in high-pressure selling of futures and options contracts to private investors. It also charged clients high rates of commission.

SIB investigators this week interviewed DPR's employees and also took statements from clients who lost thousands of pounds with the company.

The SIB's report, together with one by the Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers, to whom DPR applied for membership, will be passed to the Serious Fraud Office.

The authorities are considering whether DPR's method of dealing and high commission charges meant that clients were bound to lose their money over a period of dealing with DPR. Complaints that DPR salesmen put clients into contracts without prior authority and made misrepresentations are also under investigation.

The firm's tactics were so successful that it is believed to have made pretax profits of more than £250,000 a month.

Meanwhile, DPR investors have continued to tell *The Times* of how they lost thousands of pounds through DPR.

One investor, a self-employed sculptor earning £10,000 a year, lost his £24,000 savings and inheritance selling from DPR salesmen. He was persuaded to invest in futures to make up losses he suffered in the stock market crash.

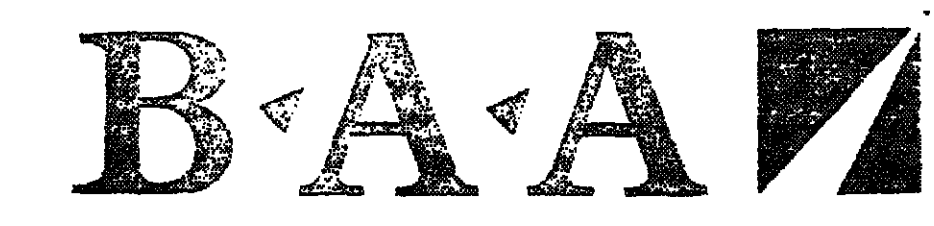
"They told me that the futures market existed to redress any fluctuations in the stock market. I put £6,000 with them at first. I was getting statements from them but they didn't tell you whether you were making a profit or a loss. Then in February they rang me up and told me I had lost the lot."

In March the badgering from DPR started again. "I was called every day at home where I work. Sometimes they phoned more than once a day. They always expressed overwhelming confidence about the prospects; there was never any intimation that real losses could ensue. I could not afford to lose more money. They said: 'If you give us more money we will get you £6,000 back'. Eventually I relented."

Mr Smith handed over £18,000, which was lost over two months and several contracts. He claims DPR earned commissions of at least \$76,000 (£45,000) on his money.

The Official Receiver has been appointed provisional liquidator of DPR, and in turn appointed Mr John Talbot of Arthur Anderson, the accountant, as special manager. Arthur Anderson's address is 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2PE.

Organ music lift-off at first meeting



Sir Norman and a shareholder at yesterday's meeting (Photograph: Nick Goldfinger)

Grounded baggage trolleys delay departures from BAA

By Colin Campbell

They came by underground, bus and train rather than flying in from some exotic resort. And instead of an annoying loudspeaker system calling the weary traveller to the departure gate, there was majestic organ music to mark the public baptism of BAA as a quoted company.

Yesterday was the first annual meeting of BAA (formerly British Airways Authority). And though there were no duty free shops in which to browse, the 1,000 shareholders who wound their way to the Royal Albert Hall (seated capacity 5,583) must have found it rather more comfortable than the crowded Gatwick terminals where would-be tourists even now are taking turns to sleep while waiting for a take-off slot.

If Sir Norman Payne, BAA's chairman, went to sleep on Thursday night rehearsing the good news that passenger traffic through the company's seven airports had increased by 6.6 per cent in June, and that in the first three months of this financial year traffic is 5.2 per cent higher, then he must have felt disappointed after two hours on his feet and an 18-page statement, at what shareholders really wanted to discuss.

There were a few rounds of applause for good results, but BAA shareholders were more interested in why our baggage trolleys do not climb escalators, unlike their Continental counterparts, and why their wheels spin in all directions other than the one in which the passenger wants to go.

At the mention of how good and reliable Zurich airport trolleys are, there were cheers and claps from the gods, leaving Sir Norman to say that three-legged British trolleys fall over and were not safe.

Another shareholder had lost his luggage in April, and still not found it. And there were suggestions that security should be improved to stop nasty fellow passengers running off with the wrong bag.

"I don't suppose the board has this problem since you are probably whipped into your Rolls-Royce by a chauffeur who carries your luggage," one told Sir Norman. He tersely replied: "This board doesn't have Rolls-Royces."

Other shareholders were more interested in why there were no women on the board when a good half of all travellers are women.

After nearly two hours shareholders were clearly beginning to feel like waiting passengers at Gatwick and by 11 in the morning there were suggestions that the meeting get on with the business of the day. Others, obviously regular annual meeting fans, were anxious to get away.

By 1 pm the organ began to play.

City puts its weight behind BAe deal

By Carol Ferguson

The City applauded Prof Roland Smith, chairman of British Aerospace, yesterday in his stand against EEC constraints, and threw its weight behind the proposed takeover of Rover Group by his company.

City fund managers chased shares of BAesharply higher on their return from the two-day suspension yesterday. Frozen at 47 1/2p while final details of the £150 million deal were being finalized, the shares dipped to a low for the day of 44 1/2p in early trading.

But the price rallied strongly after informal BAe briefings later in the day with City analysts.

It eventually closed 19p up on the day at 49p, after touching a peak of 49 1/2p, in hectic trading which saw more than 18 million shares change hands - about three times the normal level.

BAe explained to analysts that the EEC-forced £331 million cut in the Government's planned £800 million cash injection into Rover was partly offset by £78 million in regional aid, reducing the cuts to £253 million. In addition, Rover's trading performance in the first half of 1988 appears to have been better than expected.

And this, together with the improved tax allowances, makes the difference between the original deal and revised deal very small.

Mr Ian Wild, analyst at Barclay's de Zoete Wedd, has reduced his BAe profits forecast this year by £20 million to £235 million pretax. The delay in completing the deal means this year's results will have only three or four months of Rover's profits included. He estimates Rover will make about £60 million of profits this year before interest, rising to £90 million in 1989.

The fate of the 60,000 or more private shareholders in Rover remains unresolved. There are still 13 million Rover shares in private hands, with 10 million owned by more than 60,000 individuals.

Mr Noel Falconer, a spokesman for Bliss, the British Leyland Individual Shareholders Society, said that, taking inflation into account, the shares were now worth £4, compared with the price at which they were suspended of 74p. If the shareholders were offered payment on the same basis as the Government, they would receive 2.7p a share.

"If we are offered less than £2, we will not accept, and if there is a compulsory purchase order, we will initiate an abuse of minority suit," Mr Falconer said.

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NO SALESMAN WILL CALL

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Albert Fisher buys food distributor

Albert Fisher, the Anglo American food group headed by Mr Tony Millar, is paying up to £7.55 million for Charteris Food Sales and its subsidiaries which trade under the Unimerchants banner.

US listing for Ratners

Ratners Group, the jeweller with a strong United States presence through its Sterling US business, is obtaining a US quote through an American depository receipt facility.

Carpet group rolls out £2m

Victoria Carpet, the manufacturer and distributor, raised its pre-tax profits from £1.5 million to £1.9 million last year.

Beaverco seeks £2.8m

Beaverco, the USM-quoted plastics and consumer products manufacturer, is raising £2.8 million, via a placing of 1.57 million shares at 180p each, to reduce borrowings.

The group earned pre-tax profits of £1.53 million in the year to end-March, compared with £1.16 million on a turnover of 41 per cent higher at £23.8 million.

Williams to raise £20m

Williams Holdings, the industrial holding company run by Mr Nigel Rudd, is raising £20 million via the issue of unlisted redeemable preference shares and to seek approval to issue a further £80 million tranche of the same stock.

Perkins' £5m foods deals

Perkins Foods has agreed to buy two food companies, the Champifri Group of The Netherlands, which produces mushrooms, and Sunbird Foods, a frozen food supplier of Ascot, Berkshire.

BT's £200m extension

British Telecom is spending £200 million over the next few years to extend its optical-fibre communications network to Britain's principal cities.

'US bid on the way' for Yale

There was no stopping the shares of Yale and Valor, the security locks-to-heating group, in late trading yesterday as they jumped by a further 16p to 465p amid talk that Mr Michael Montague, the chairman, will be on the receiving end of a hostile US bid for his company next week.

Speculators bought aggressively as reports filtered through the market that Ingersoll-Rand, the US engineering equipment and tool designer, had built up a near-5 per cent stake in Yale over the past few weeks and was ready with a knock-out offer of £6 a share.

The shares of Yale have risen in a virtual straight line from the early June level of 260p on intense takeover speculation which reached fever pitch recently when Williams Holdings, the aggressive, diversified industrial group run by Mr Nigel Rudd, said that it had acquired a 3.9 per cent interest.

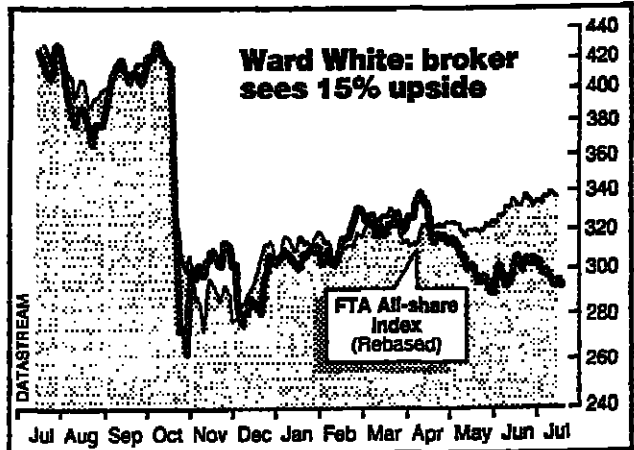
The declaration of Williams' interest did not satisfy the curiosity of most dealers who were convinced that another predator was stalking the company - and so any corporate move by Ingersoll-Rand next week will come as no real surprise.

Mr Nigel Rudd's reply to any proposed takeover of Yale and Valor by the American group could be an immediate counter-offer, so dealers are forecasting further movement in the shares during the coming weeks.

Williams has a good record with takeovers and only once has it tried and failed in a hostile bid - a £570 million offer for Norcross, another industrial conglomerate, in April 1987.

Elsewhere, the equity market staged a strong late recovery on relief that the all-

STOCK MARKET



in the short term, while sales at Madeley's (now renamed Fyless) are up 48 per cent higher than in the corresponding period last year.

Mr Smiddy, an analyst at County NatWest Wood-Mac, the broker, recommends the stock as a strong buy.

He pours cold water on recent speculation that Ward White is considering a \$1 billion (£600 million) bid for Payless Cashways, a Missouri-based building materials retailer. He gives the reason why the shares have underperformed the market by 15 per cent since the results in April as the £128 million bid mounted soon after for AG Stanley.

He states that the Ward White acquisition team has revealed no shocks at AG Stanley and the plan is to convert 20 pilot stores to a new look by the end of September with a new fascia - "Homestyle".

The decision has been made on the future of the wallpaper factory at Holme Chapel, near Burnley in Lancashire. However, AGS might well contribute about £6 million this year.

The Halfords and Payless core businesses are being aggressively expanded and will show good profits growth

of its two classes of shares to create greater voting parity. The group quickly demised such stories and Mr Victor MacColl, a drinks expert at Kleinwort Griveson Securities, the broker, also said it was highly unlikely. He said: "If they were to enfranchise, Whitbread would be a sitting duck for any predator."

Other analysts suggested that such a move would probably be a long-term development and would result in a reduction in the control of the company by the Whitbread family. Whitbread's voting shares are held by the Whitbread family and family trusts.

Mr MacColl also rejected market talk of a possible merger with Heineken, the much bigger Dutch brewer.

Courtaulds, the textiles group, moved up by 5p to 340.5p, after 344p, as more than 4 million shares changed hands after the group announced that it had disposed of its woodpulp interests in South Africa for £207 million.

The group's annual meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday and interest will be focused on news about current trading and any further information regarding the mysterious 4 per cent shareholding taken in the company by Mr Kerry Packer.

Some dealers feel that Mr Packer might well decide to pick up some more stock.

Symonds' profits reduced

Shares of Symonds Engineering fell from 51p to 46p yesterday after reduced pre-tax profits for the year ended March.

Profits eased from £254,000 to £189,000 even though turnover rose from £4.39 million to £4.43 million. In the first half of the financial year, pre-tax profits had edged forward from £79,000 to £86,000, and the board said it was hopeful that the second half would show improved profitability and that satisfactory results would be achieved for the full year.

The year's net earnings turned out at 1.158p a share compared with 1.643p a share.

The maintained final dividend of 0.7p a share makes an unchanged 1p a share payment for the year.

In March, JF Nash, a private company controlled by Mr John Nash, of Brunel Latimer, in Northamptonshire, acquired a 15.78 per cent stake in Symonds.

Marina group soars to £1.3m

Pre-tax profits at USM-quoted Marina Development Group jumped from £79,000 to £1.3 million in the year to end-March. Sales nearly doubled, from £4.8 million to £9.3 million. Earnings per share increased from 1.5p to 9.1p. A final dividend of 1p was declared.

Last October, Marina Development raised £37-million through a rights issue, to finance the acquisition of five marinas from The Rank Organisation.

The group says it remains committed to its strategy of selling its non-core businesses and concentrating on generating berthing and property rental income. The shares dropped 2p to 340p yesterday.

RECENT ISSUES

Table with columns: EQUITIES, RECENT ISSUES, RIGHTS ISSUES, TRADITIONAL OPTIONS. Lists various companies and their financial details.

ALPHA STOCKS

Table with columns: Vol '000, Alpha Stocks. Lists various companies and their market performance.

Wray builds up stake in Chartsearch to 44%

Mr Nigel Wray, the deputy chairman of Singer & Friedlander, the merchant bank, has emerged with a near-majority holding in Chartsearch, the publisher of investment newsletters and books, whose shares were suspended last Friday.

Mr Wray has bought a further 33.5 per cent holding in the USM-quoted group from Mr John Gommers, the chairman, whose place on the

board he will take. Mr Gommers becomes deputy chairman and chief executive. The sale of the shares brings Mr Wray's holding to 44 per cent, and under Stock Exchange rules he is obliged to make a full offer. This will be at 30.5p, the price he paid for Mr Gommers' shares, and is unlikely to be accepted. Chartsearch shares having returned from their suspension yesterday to reach 84p.

WALL STREET

Dow edges lower in early dealings

New York (Reuters) - Shares remained slightly lower in early trading yesterday amid weak bond prices and despite a strong dollar. The Dow Jones industrial average fell by 4 points to 2,109.62 after reaching as high as 2,127.00.

Falling shares outnumbered rising ones by about three to two.

The 0.4 per cent rise in June's industrial production and in the producer price index was about as expected and the trade deficit for May was a little below estimates.

On Thursday, the Dow average closed 9.25 higher at 2,113.62.

● Tokyo - The Nikkei-Dow index fell by 170.29 points, or 0.61 per cent, to 27,913.79, after a high of 28,266.92. It rose by 63.98 points on Thursday. Volume was 2 billion shares against 2.1 billion.

Prices closed lower after a day of wide fluctuations as investors initially tried to shake off concerns ahead of the release of the US trade figures for May but they failed to keep up the momentum.

● Frankfurt - The DAX 30-share index closed at 1,191.40 - 4.19 points up on the day

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table with columns: Series, Call, Put, Strike, etc. for various options.

Advertisement for British Telecom Coral mobile phone. Includes image of the phone, a hand holding it, and text: 'That's about the size of it.', 'SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER ENDS JULY 31ST', 'The new Telecom Coral is one of the smallest, most compact hand portable phones you can buy.'

Table with columns: AMR Co, ASA, Allied Signal, etc. and various stock prices.

British TELECOM It's you we answer to

Lewis's raises £80m in deal with CapCo

By Cliff Feltham

The management team that launched a buyout of the Lewis's department store chain from Sears, the retailing group, is raising £80 million from a sale and leaseback deal with Capital & Counties, the shopping centre developer.

The cash raised by the fledgling high street group will help wipe out the debts that arose from financing the buy-out, while Capital & Counties will start a redevelopment of some of the biggest stores. As part of the deal the property group will have the right to take a 25 per cent stake in the Lewis's stores business.

Last night, Mr James Fyfe, who is moving up from managing director to chairman of Lewis's, said: "It was always our intention to do something of this kind. We had a lot of debts and owned a lot of freehold property. This deal will leave us with a clean balance sheet and give us the

opportunity to redevelop and modernize some of the stores."

Capital & Counties is buying seven of the 10 stores involved in the buyout, in Manchester, Oxford, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Blackpool and Bolton. Lewis's also runs stores in Birmingham, Glasgow and Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent.

Mr Ray Moorman, managing director of Capital & Counties, said: "The stores we are buying are almost all in prime shopping locations in strong retailing centres - and some are in good office locations."

"They comprise over 2 million sq ft of space and present a very exciting opportunity to add value with relatively little physical disturbance. That development potential can be realized quite quickly in some instances and without substantially inter-

ing with Lewis's continuity of trade."

He says the stores in Manchester and Leeds are ideal for redeveloping the ground area where concessionaires or shops-within-stores could be introduced.

"This is a tremendously productive transaction for both of us. Lewis's will end up with modernized stores and a strong base from which to expand, and we will have major retail and office investment of considerably enhanced value."

His group is also acquiring £20 million of redeemable preference shares in Lewis's which can be converted into a 25 per cent stake over the next 10 years. Two representatives of Capital & Counties will join the Lewis's board as non-executive directors and Lewis's will make similar nominations to the board of the property group.

Liquidator sent in at Reid Services

By Lawrence Lever

The Department of Trade and Industry has appointed a provisional liquidator at Reid Services, a share dealer which has about 600 clients. This is the third investment firm to be challenged by the authorities this week.

Reid is believed to have been suspended from membership of the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra) in March this year.

The company primarily sold over-the-counter shares to private investors. The DTI's petition to appoint the Official Receiver as provisional liquidator alleges that the company is insolvent and that its accounting records do not comply with the Companies Act.

Reid originally ran a small insurance consultancy from Weymouth, Dorset, starting in 1983. However, since June 1987, the company has run a much larger operation from Bristol, Avon, selling over-the-counter shares.

A statement from the DTI yesterday said that the Official Receiver's role is to safeguard the assets of the company until the hearing of the winding-up petition.

People wishing to contact him should write to The Official Receiver's Office, Atlantic House, (Ref E/137), Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD.

Ex-HKSE chief charged

Hong Kong (Reuters) - Mr Jeffrey Sun, former chief executive of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, was charged yesterday on counts of accepting bribes.

Mr Sun was granted bail of HK\$2.1 million (£161,790) and remanded until August 11. He did not plead.

He is accused of accepting in June, 182,000 shares of QPL Holdings, the electronics manufacturer, to approve a new QPL issue and is also charged with accepting 100,000 shares in Video Technology Holdings as an inducement for approving a listing.

He will appear in court on August 11 at the same time as Mr Ronald Li, the former stock exchange chairman. Mr Li has been charged with accepting shares in Kumagai Gumi Hong Kong.

Rising house prices may send inflation through the roof



KENNETH FLEET

If the weather or the prospect of interminable delays at airports are not enough to depress you, you might like to try the balance of payments (in deepening deficit) or the rate of inflation (rising). I would choose inflation because it is more topical and is provoking scintillating mutterings in and around the Treasury, calculated to disturb everyone who owns his own home.

Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is accused of "giving away" too much money through his Budget tax cuts (a nonsense) and compounding his error by massaging base rates down to 7½ per cent, swelling the flow of credit and encouraging consumer spending. Neither is good for inflation.

This week has seen bigger-than-expected increases (in June) in prices producers pay and charge, and the June retail price index, published yesterday, is 4.6 per cent, a cry, if not a far cry, from the January low of 3.3 per cent. Important influences bearing on the future RPI can only be guesstimated (world commodity prices, the sterling exchange rate, the movement in wages and salaries). But given the climb in base rates back to 10 per cent (and possibly higher), one thing is certain: mortgage rates are going up and they will bump up the RPI from August onwards. The third quarter of the year

is likely to see a 4.8 per cent RPI and while it may fall a fraction in the fourth, an emotive and politically embarrassing 5 per cent is in the stars for the first quarter of 1989.

It may not happen but it is not easy to be too optimistic when the air is suddenly filled with Whitehall-inspired gossip about credit controls (dismissed, it is true, by Mr Lawson, as "ineffective" and "circumvented with ease") and "a tax on home ownership". It is hard to know whether to take this seriously.

There is a school of Oxford economists with cultural lines to the Treasury which maintains that rising house prices have a serious impact on the rate of inflation. Ergo, if one takes measures to keep house prices down, and they succeed, one reduces the upward pressure on prices generally. There is a "wealth effect": just looking in an estate agent's window makes house owners feel richer and they go out and spend more (a dubious proposition at

best). There is also the impact on wage demands ("we need more money to buy more expensive houses") and crucially, on pay settlements. I doubt whether this particular piece of "logic" bears any examination at all.

However, the arguments have fanned the embers of charred logs like Schedule A taxation - which many will remember - on the imputed rental value of the property one owns; tax relief on mortgage interest (abolition of), which has some merit though not for reasons to do with inflation; and even the Labour Government's system in the late 1970s of guidelines for building society lending.

We know where the Prime Minister stands on mortgage interest tax relief - she has interposed herself between it and Treasury and other thinkers who would abolish it. Guidelines are a joke that does not raise a titer.

The central point is the absurdity of tinkering with symptoms. Inflation's causes will respond to treatment: higher interest rates, which we have now; a tighter monetary policy, which we are getting; a sound fiscal policy (we have a prospective Budget surplus this year of £7 billion, and £10 billion next); and a strong exchange rate, which the Prime Minister for one will want to maintain.

A training dynamo for business

Yesterday morning I went back to the former Times building in Gray's Inn Road, not to talk with ghosts or relive the

past but to hear the newly-appointed chairman of the Training Commission, the remodelled successor to the Manpower Services Commission where Lord Young first raised his political flag. Brian Wolfson, aged 52, takes up his appointment, which is part time and for three years, on September 1. He is chairman of the British Institute of Management until the end of September and chairman of Wembley, where his involvement remains total.

Norman Fowler would have been hard put to find a better qualified or more committed man for the job. He is a board member of the Foundation for Management Education and a member of the advisory board of the Wharton Centre for International Management Studies. He knows, for example, that the trouble with business schools is that they spend their time teaching students how to solve problems. "The real

business is to find the problem; then you have a chance of solving it." His vein of Merseyside humour is particularly rich!

Mr Wolfson believes that the difference between company A and company B (and between country A and country B) is "people, the level of their skills and standards of leadership". He maintains that the quality of leadership in British industry has risen: "It has come from the depths but it still has a mountain to climb. The urgent task now is to enhance the level of skills."

He has an historic and American perception of the problem of education and training in Britain.

"We have a brilliant system for training elites and a diabolical system for educating the rest. To make progress you have to negotiate elitist hurdles. Some succeed but most do not and they are left behind disgruntled. Contrast that with the approach of the most successful company in the world,

IBM. It sets its sales force achievable targets, which enables and encourages them to tackle the next hurdle, and the next and the next."

In the United States, where, incidentally, Mr Wolfson became the first non-North American world president of the Young Presidents' Organisation, attitudes generally are different "To know is to grow, in contrast to here, there is a lack of envy of success, the value of investing in yourself, in your education and training, is understood - universities are measured by the number of graduates placed in jobs and their median salaries; and the philosophy of business is market pull - selling your wares - not producer push."

He is too shrewd a Liverpudlian to believe for one moment that one man can change a culture, even the culture of an organization. But the Training Commission, as surely as Wembley and the BIM did, will soon discover that it has a dedicated dynamo at the head.

Oregon regulator opposes BAT in battle for Farmers

By John Bell City Editor

BAT's £2.5 billion takeover bid for Farmers, the American insurance group, is gaining strong support from Farmers shareholders, but running into stiff opposition from United States' insurance regulators.

About 31 per cent of Farmers' stock had been tendered at the latest closing date. The offer has been further extended until August 11.

But Mr Theodore Kulonogski, Oregon's state insurance commissioner, withheld approval of the deal. California has also refused to allow the bid to proceed through BAT, which is headed by Mr Patrick Sheehy, is taking legal action to challenge the finding.

So far only one of the nine states whose approval is essential for BAT's success, Arizona, has given the go-ahead.

Mr Leo F Denke, the chairman of Farmers, said the Oregon ruling came after substantial testimony on matters including lack of disclosure of BAT's financial plans for Farmers.

The decision underscored Farmers' conviction that the transaction was not in the best



Challenging the opposition: Patrick Sheehy of BAT

interests of the shareholders, policyholders and the general public, said Mr Denke.

BAT's US subsidiary said it was "completely astonished" by the negative reaction of the Oregon Department of Insurance.

"A cursory reading of the decision strongly suggests that the commissioner has reached conclusions that are contrary to law and appear to be unsupported by the record or the facts," a BATUS spokesman said.

Central & Sheerwood cash boost

By Our City Staff

The latest stage in the rehabilitation of Central & Sheerwood, the engineering, printing and publishing conglomerate rescued by Mr Robert Maxwell's Pergamon, involves a fresh £2.34 million cash injection from Robert Fraser, a financial services and property group.

In return, Fraser, in which Pergamon has a 7.89 per cent holding, representing 2.17 per cent of the voting capital, and several executives from Fraser's property division, will take an aggregate 29.9 per cent stake in C&S. They will hold the shares for at least two years.

C&S will also acquire four property companies from Fraser for £860,000.

At the same time Mr Maxwell joins C&S as chairman. His son, Kevin, is a non-executive director of both C&S and Fraser.

CASE poised for final attack on bid

By Michael Tate

CASE Group, the computer network company fighting a £59 million hostile takeover bid from Gandalf Technologies, the Canadian group, is likely to publish its final attack on the Ottawa group's proposals today.

Under City takeover rules, today is the last opportunity for CASE to issue information relevant to the bid battle, and it is understood that a revised defence document will be posted to shareholders.

It is thought that the document will not include a profit forecast, since CASE is only three months into its current financial year.

But it does seem as if a substantial increase in sales in the first quarter may be reported, as well as significant news on dividend prospects.

Mr James Bailey, the Lancashire-born chief executive of

Gandalf, flew into London this week to mastermind the final stages of the bid.

He will this week be calling on the British institutions who are being asked to accept Gandalf shares in part payment for CASE.

The next closing date for the bid is Friday, with August 5 as the final date. There have already been indications that Mr Bailey would be prepared to raise his terms if he could win a recommendation from the CASE board.

It now seems almost certain that he will announce an increase early next week. Sources close to Gandalf believe that CASE shareholders will be offered terms worth something over 100p a share. The current bid - one Gandalf share and 320p in cash for every eight CASE - is worth 92.5p.

INL sells £7m Reuters stake

Independent Newspapers, the New Zealand publishing group, has sold about half of its holding in Reuters on the open market for NZ\$18.5 million (£7.1 million). INL, in which The News Corporation has a 40 per cent interest, announced a week ago that it was buying the Auckland Star for NZ\$72 million.

Greycoat plans

Greycoat Group, the property development and investment company, has won approval from the Department of the Environment for two large projects in Wimbledon.

One of the schemes, a large shopping centre, is being funded by UK Provident Institution, part of Friends' Provident Life Office, at a cost of £60 million.

Lloyd's faces up to losses on two fronts

Piper Alpha reinsurance 'incomplete'

By Colin Narbrough

Some Lloyd's of London underwriters are understood to be facing greater losses than they had expected after last week's Piper Alpha oil platform disaster, as their brokers failed to complete the required reinsurance arrangements in time.

A Lloyd's spokesman said yesterday that no official confirmation had been received of incomplete reinsurance slips, and that such

information would normally be available only if underwriting syndicates or companies could not meet their commitments.

The trouble appears to have arisen because the explosions on board Piper Alpha occurred less than two weeks after the attachment date for reinsurance of oil rigs and platforms. Some reinsurance slips had not been completed by July 6, the day of the disaster.

While an unknown percentage of the estimated loss of \$1.2 billion (£710 million) may not be reinsured, payments to the operators of the platform will be unaffected, and are expected to be paid out under a special fast procedure which applies to major losses.

Direct underwriters will, however, have to carry a larger share of the claim than they would have needed to had full reinsurance cover been in place.

The sensitive nature of the issue has meant that brokers are reluctant to discuss Piper Alpha reinsurance. They are prepared to admit their awareness of flawed reinsuring, but are unwilling to identify specific cases.

The big established broking firms insist that their business is conducted with precision and punctuality, suggesting that any reinsurance slippage is likely to be found among the smaller, less-organized brokers.

Nearly 1,000 names leaving market

A run of bad news for underwriters, the latest being the tragedy on board Piper Alpha oil platform, could explain the current flight of names from the Lloyd's insurance market, a spokesman said yesterday.

But serious underwriting losses are not the only cause for the increasing numbers of members resigning, and the changes in taxation structure are seen as a more fundamental reason for names leaving from other fields of investment.

Mr Murray Lawrence, the market's chairman, recently made it clear that Lloyd's needed to go back to making sound underwriting profits, and to move away from cash-flow business, underwriting its interest in long-term commitment from its members.

The requirement for members should be raised from the present £100,000, as a way of encouraging the wealthier, longer-term investor. The new figure, expected to be in the region of £200,000 to £250,000, could come into force in 1990.

Lloyd's is unable to say which type of member is resigning, and appears unconcerned about the present level of departures. It sees the phenomenon more as a shedding of underwriting capacity in a market currently suffering from over-capacity.

The more than 33,500 members at the start of the year were capable of underwriting premiums to a value of £11.6 billion, a figure far in excess of what will be called on.

The latest figures for names shows 758 resignations, and 221 intended resignations, compared with 244 and 82

respectively at this time last year. Applications, meanwhile, stood at 1,073 yesterday, against 3,125 a year ago.

However Lloyd's, as a body, views the question of underwriting capacity as one on which it need take no central action, and can instead rely on members' agents not to take on more names than they can place on syndicates. Lloyd's would begin to worry only if underwriting capacity fell below the level of demand, the spokesman said.

The market has had periods of levelling off and decline in the past. In 1965-66, the number of names fell in the wake of the damage caused by Hurricane Betsy, which caused members an average loss of £5,000 each.

In the past, however, such fluctuations were less public.

Vote ends stalemate on Gucci board

Shareholders of Guccio Gucci, the Italian fashion house, have reached a compromise which has ended an impasse over the format of the board.

Signorina Maria Martelli, the Gucci chairman, said shareholders had agreed at a meeting in Florence this week to the addition of two seats to

the previous eight-member board.

Mr Paul Dimitruk, a representative of Investcorp, the Bahrain investment bank which owns 47.8 per cent of Gucci, and Signor Vittorio Ponti, representing custodians for the frozen 50 per cent stake held by Signor Maurizio

Gucci, the former chairman, were named to the board.

Investcorp and the custodians now each have five seats. Signor Maurizio Gucci can not vote his stake, pending the outcome of legal challenges.

Signor Roberto Gucci - one of the grandsons of Guccio Gucci, the company's founder

- who holds a 2.2 per cent stake, did not participate in the meeting.

Investcorp had sought a nine-man board, plus a fifth seat, at a meeting last month. Sources said management of the firm remains clouded because the board now must select a managing director.

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UNITED SECURITIES

Table of United Securities, listing various financial instruments, their prices, and market movements. Includes columns for company names, prices, and changes.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of Investment Trusts, providing details on various trust funds, their assets, and performance metrics.

THIRD MARKET

Table of Third Market, listing prices and volumes for various securities traded on the third market.

TREASURY BILLS

Table of Treasury Bills, showing yields and prices for different maturity periods.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London Financial Futures, listing prices and movements for various futures contracts.

COMMODITIES

Table of Commodities, listing prices for various raw materials and goods.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of Foreign Exchanges, showing exchange rates for various international currencies.

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Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Cash in Hand, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

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Table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with columns: Year, Yield, Dividend, P/E

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with columns: Year, Yield, Dividend, P/E

UNDATED

Table with columns: Yield, Dividend, P/E

INDEX-LINKED

Table with columns: Yield, Dividend, P/E

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

ELECTRICALS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Late rally

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 4. Dealings ended yesterday. §Contango day next Monday. Settlement day July 25. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 26).

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

BREWERIES

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

BUILDING, ROADS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

FINANCE, LAND

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

FOODS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

FOODS (cont.)

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

CINEMAS, TV

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

DRAPERY, STORES

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

HOTELS, CATERERS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

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INDUSTRIALS A-D

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

INDUSTRIALS E-K

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INDUSTRIALS L-R

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INDUSTRIALS S-Z

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INSURANCE

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LEISURE

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

MINING

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MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

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NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

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OVERSEAS TRADERS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

PROPERTY

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SHIPPING

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

SHOES, LEATHER

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TEXTILES

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TOBACCO

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

OILS, GAS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

TOBACCO (cont.)

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

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Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

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TOBACCO

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OILS, GAS

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TOBACCO (cont.)

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Gross Div, Yield, P/E

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FAMILY MONEY

Dearer bank mortgages

As mortgage lenders announce their lending rates in the wake of recent bank base rate rises, the news seems ever more depressing.

First came Barclays Bank with a mortgage rate at 11.1 per cent (an APR of 11.6), then Midland Bank moved its mortgage rate from 9.75 to 11.3 per cent. Now the TSB has increased its mortgage rates too.

Endowment mortgages go from 9.6 to 11.25 per cent, while repayment mortgages rise from 9.9 to 11.6 per cent. The higher rate reflects the fact that the TSB will not be picking up the lucrative endowment insurance contact at the same time.

The TSB is also introducing a new fixed-rate mortgage at 10.9 per cent on Monday. The rate is fixed for five years. At the end of the period borrowers will be given the option of taking on another fixed-rate mortgage.

There is an arrangement fee of £100, and anyone who wants to ditch the fixed rate will have to pay a penalty of three months' interest. Only those who move home and take out a fresh TSB mortgage will escape the penalty.

The Midland is also offering fixed-rate mortgages at 11.2 per cent (an APR of 11.8) from Monday. The rate will be fixed for three years and the mortgage must be for a minimum of £30,000 linked to a Midland endowment or pension policy.

At the moment the Midland has a summer sale on endowment mortgages negotiated before July 29. The rate will be reduced by 0.5 percentage points for the first year. This brings down the rate to 10.8 per cent.

But the building societies are delaying the announcement of their new, higher, rates. These will be set later this month for implementation on August 1.

The Halifax, Britain's largest building society, still says it expects to set a rate between 10.75 and 11.25 per cent. The bank rates look expensive in this light.

But banks, like the new lenders, are more dependent on interest rates than building societies as they get their funds in the money markets, while building societies look to retail funds from savers.

At the moment the societies are enjoying record receipts, so they may be able to undercut the banks. Mortgage lenders are also

tightening up slightly on the amounts they will lend to couples and groups when the August 1 deadline for multiple tax relief has passed.

Many will still be offering relatively lenient terms for joint purchasers, although it is likely these will be linked to special schemes deferring part of the interest payments in the early years of the mortgage.

UCB Home Loans Corporation has relaunched its Leo mortgage, which previously offered to lend up to 3.25 times joint incomes to joint purchasers, plus one times any other salaries involved. Up to four people can borrow together for one property.

That has been replaced by a slightly reduced income multiple of three times two joint salaries plus once the other salaries. A couple can borrow three times their combined earnings.

Repayments in the first five years are reduced by deferral of part of the interest. A portion is added to

the capital amount outstanding. This type of scheme is quite common in the mortgage market now but there is a danger that the amount outstanding after the period of deferred interest can in the end be more than the property is worth.

David Zerdin, UCB's marketing manager says the company will not lend more than 95 per cent of a property's value to help avoid this.

As long as house price inflation remains high it is unlikely that borrowers will be caught out. "But we keep a close eye on what is happening," he said.

Mr Zerdin says the change reflects the reduction in mortgage interest relief available to unmarried joint purchasers after August 1.

The income multiples on the new product, called Leo II, are still heady compared with what many lenders will advance, but Mr Zerdin says: "Our vetting procedures are very tough. We have quite a high rejection rate."

He believes the end of multiple mortgage interest relief will make only a marginal difference to borrowers' ability to pay.

With mortgage interest relief being restricted, and higher mortgage rates on the

way, the Town & Country Building Society seemed to be out of step with other lenders when it announced this week that it would be adopting a much more flexible approach in deciding how much to lend.

"Managers have been given discretion to exceed normal income multiples if an individual applicant is able to demonstrate an ability to repay mortgages outside the normal lending criteria," said the society in its announcement.

Stephen Dilworth, the assistant general manager, said branch managers had been given discretion over income multiples for groups of single buyers after the Budget ruling that interest relief would be restricted.

They had not been told to tighten up after August 1 but a rise in the mortgage rate would affect managers' attitudes to what they would lend.

And although the society might be lending more in some cases, borrowers were now able to extend the life of their loan to as much as 40 years to reduce repayments.

The Lambeth Building Society will lend up to 3.5 times a main income plus 1.75 times a second. People borrowing on higher multiples have been offered a reduced interest rate until April next year, but this concession will not be available after August 1.

The Halifax Building Society has not launched any special schemes for people wanting to beat the deadline on multiple relief and its income multiples are already quite conservative. Those borrowing more than 95 per cent of a property's value, for example, are usually allowed to borrow 2.75 times the main income plus once the lower, or 2.1 times the joint incomes.

Despite this, however, the Halifax has been granting twice as many mortgages to people getting multiple tax relief as normal. Before the Budget it was granting about 4,500 or 5,000 a month. In May and June the figure rose to 8,000.

Vivien Goldsmith and Maria Scott

Voice for the private investor

Gordon Campbell, right, from Stevenage, Hertfordshire, is to be the lone voice of the private investor at the Stock Exchange.

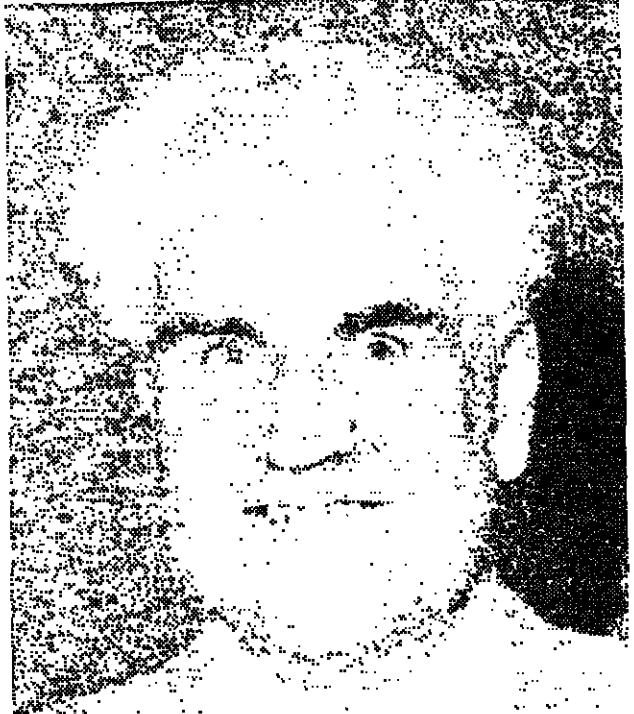
This 51-year-old, who started investing on the Stock Exchange two or three years ago when he had a lump sum after being made redundant from his job as a quality manager with ICL, has been elected to be the chairman of the Stock Exchange Investors' Club.

As such he merits a seat on the International Stock Exchange chairman's Investors' Advisory Group.

This group, which has the ear of the chairman, has been exclusively an institutional preserve up to now. So it is quite a concession for the Stock Exchange to allow the voice of the private investor to be heard at all.

"I have some quite strong views," says Mr Campbell, who hopes to start his own business. After being made redundant he took some investment courses. "I took an interest in the learning curve," he says.

He claims not to have been carried away by the bull market and to have survived last October's crash in quite



good shape. "I have held on to my shares," he says.

The other members of the committee, elected in a postal ballot, are Donald Cobert, from London, and Kevin Goldstein-Jackson, from Poole, Dorset.

The club, which is one year old today, has about 3,200 members. About 1,000 of them came via an offer of free membership from Fidelity when it launched its share-dealing service.

Membership normally costs £15 a year. Members receive a

quarterly magazine, *Stock-market*, and seminars are held around the country to discuss investment topics and meet stockbrokers in an informal setting.

Members are also told that they can ring the Stock Exchange for advice about procedure, although, in fact, any Stock Exchange investor would be given general advice on ringing the Wide Share Ownership Unit.

The club will not give specific advice or stock market tips.

TSB offers fixed-rate loan for five years

TSB offers fixed-rate loan for five years

Flexible approach on how much to lend

Flexible approach on how much to lend

Prudential Property Services, the estate agency arm of the Prudential Corporation, is launching a surveying package from its network of 767 estate agencies.

But to avoid the possibility of conflicts of interest it will not be available for any property being bought through the Prudential.

The service, called Home Check, offers prospective purchasers a survey that is halfway between a basic lender's valuation and a full structural survey. The cost of a Home Check report will vary, depending on the characteristics of the property such as age and size. But it is likely to range from £180 to £450.

Abbey National sends out the case for plc status

Members of the Abbey National Building Society are about to be bombarded with campaign literature ahead of the vote on making the society a public limited company.

The Abbey is sending all 6.5 million members eligible to vote a letter setting out the society's reasons for wanting to convert, and a series of questions and answers designed to dispel any misconceptions.

The four reasons the Abbey gives for converting are:

● As a plc the Abbey would have greater flexibility and freedom to provide new or different services. "We cannot afford to be too slow or too late," it says.

● The Abbey needs to be able to raise extra capital more easily and economically. The capital is needed for larger branches and more automation.

● The Abbey needs to ensure a steady flow of funds for mortgages at competitive rates. "The flow should be better protected against sudden economic changes," it says.

● And lastly, the Abbey says it needs to be able to meet competition from American, Japanese and European financial institutions, which can enter our market. After 1992 the European Community will open the doors to free competition among member states in financial services. "As a plc we would be better protected against sudden economic changes," says the Abbey.

Among the questions that the Abbey itself poses is: How

'The cons are just brushed aside'

can members be expected to vote in an informed way if they are to be given merely a single recommendation by the board?

Its answer is that meetings will be held throughout the country, and as well as pointing out the advantages of turning into a plc, the advantages of staying a mutual organization will also be pointed out.

But, predictably, the members of Abbey Members Against Flotation (AMAF) are not satisfied with this.

"None of the cons are provided as such, though a few are touched on and brushed aside. The board knows best, and continues to resist any attempts to tell members, whose decision it must be, of

arguments which conflict with the board's view," says the group.

It argues that the key issue is evaded by the Abbey: "As a mutual building society or plc, they have a duty to provide adequate reserves. When running the society for members, any surpluses have to be applied for the members' benefit. For a plc dividends for shareholders have to be taken from those same surpluses. Members can only suffer."



Alexander Sandison, surprised chairman of AMAF, says he does not believe that Sir Campbell Adamson and the rest of the Abbey board accept that the philosophical differences between a mutual and a plc are important.

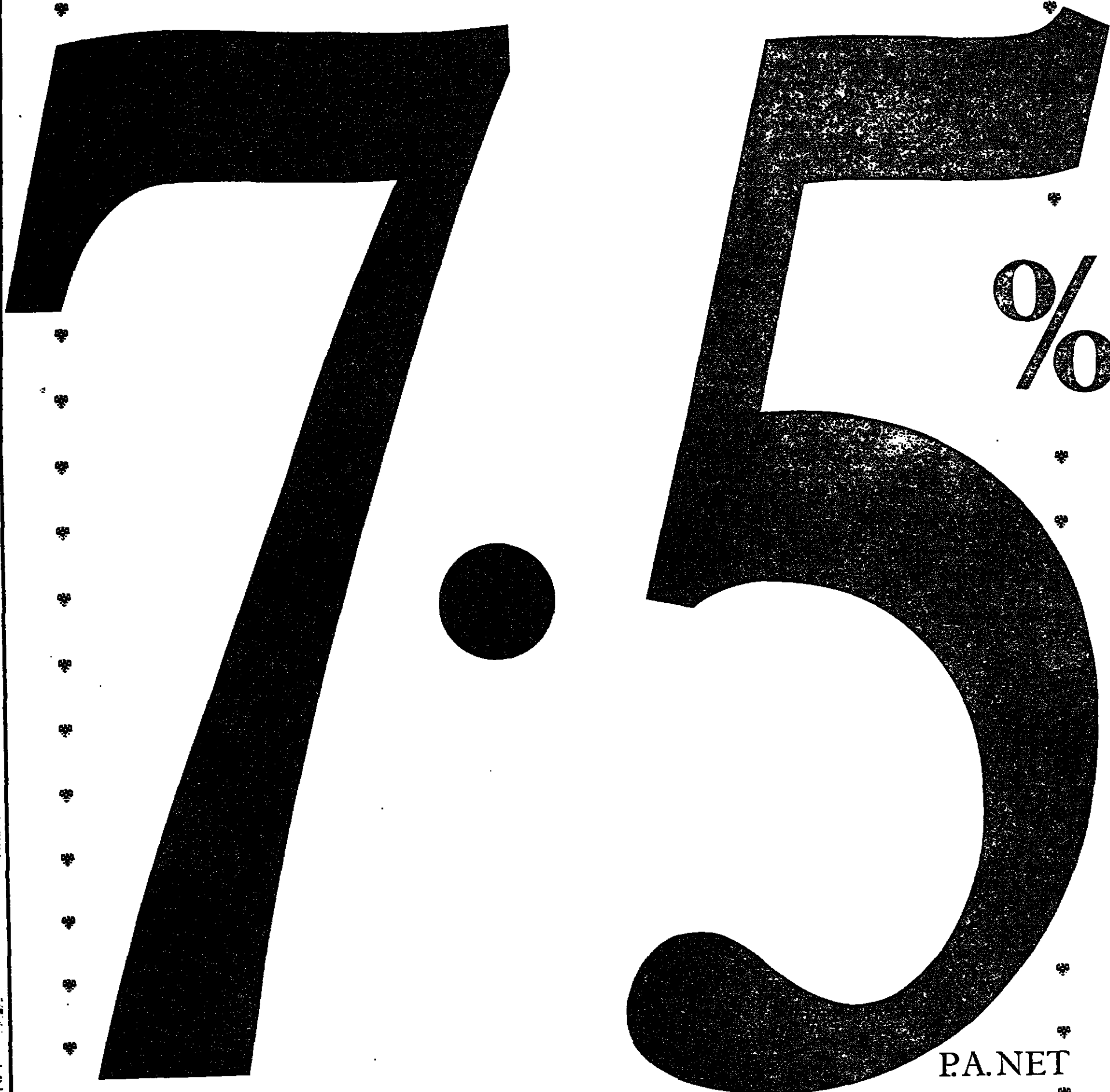
"A mutual is a different animal from a plc, run for the benefit of its shareholders," he says. "I find the statement that there will be no change in policy a bit surprising. The change in status is a substantial one, and if they go ahead with it, there ought to be substantial changes."

Mr Sandison also questioned the position of Abbey mortgage-holders, who do not stand to get any hand-out of cash or shares on a flotation of the society.

If the flotation is to go ahead, 20 per cent of Abbey's investors must vote, and 75 per cent of those voting must vote in favour. Borrowers also have a vote, but all that is required from them is a simple majority in favour of the flotation.

AMAF meets at Friends' House, Euston Road, London NW1, at 2.30pm next Saturday. The organization will adopt a constitution and plan its course of action, which could still include forcing an extraordinary general meeting on the Abbey.

VG



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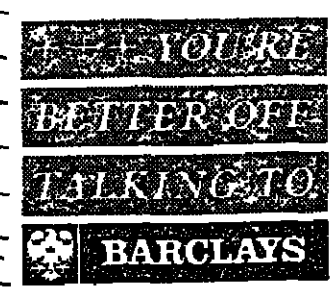
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Form with fields for Full name(s), Address, Postcode, Daytime telephone number, Signature(s), and Date.



FAMILY MONEY

Some Afcor creditors may lose every penny

Some investors in the failed share dealer and market maker Afcor Investments are unlikely to get back a penny, according to Deloitte Haskins & Sells, the accountants handling the receivership.

After the company went into receivership on May 4 there were fears that Afcor's funds would fall far short of the amount needed to refund the small investors who were owed money.

Paul Davis, a manager in Deloitte's insolvency department, said: "We don't believe the unsecured creditors are going to get anything."

Secured creditors would receive part of the amount owed to them "but whether they receive total repayment is unclear". About 1,500 former Afcor clients registered claims against the company, mostly for uncompleted deals. They were believed to be owed a total of about £2 million.

However, the investigators have been unable to establish precisely what Afcor's total debt is.

"The records of Afcor are totally inadequate and very unreliable," said Mr Davis. "The amount owed to creditors is constantly moving upwards and the amount owed by

debtors is constantly moving downwards."

The Afcor directors had not produced the statement on the company's financial position required of them by law, and this, said Mr Davis, was probably because the records were inadequate.

The most common complaint from investors was about difficulties over receiving certificates for shares they had bought.

Deloitte is now producing a report on its findings for creditors and copies will be available at the creditors' meeting, which is to be held in the Burrell Suite of the Strand Palace Hotel, The Strand, London, at 11am on July 25. Copies are available before then from Deloitte at 128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX.

A compensation scheme is being set up under the Financial Services Act and is due to be in place by August 27. But this will be too late for Afcor investors. And at present it is intended that the fund will not be open to those who have lost money through companies that are trading with interim authorization under the Act, as Afcor was.

Maria Scott

Pain-free legal bills

Last month Joe Lacey (not his real name) finally received a £7,000 cheque from his marine insurance company — an out-of-court settlement for the value of his ski boat, outboard motor, trailer and two wet suits that were stolen last summer.

It took almost a year and the help of a solicitor to persuade the insurance company to pay out after the boat Joe had only recently part-exchanged was unhitched with its trailer from the back of his car.

Fortunately for Joe, not only did the intervention of a solicitor prevent him having to fund a replacement boat out of his own pocket, but the solicitor's bill, which includes seeking counsel's opinion, will be met in full by the legal expenses insurance policy that cost Joe less than £10 a year.

A young couple also have legal expenses insurance to thank for speeding their claim against a tour operator after a foreign holiday that started off on the wrong foot when the flight was delayed and became a disaster because the hotel was still under construction and the swimming pool was non-existent. Their insurance backing helped to bring that claim to a successful and relatively fuss-free conclusion.

Both the couple and Joe Lacey are convinced that without the backing and help of their legal expenses policies they would probably not have pursued their cases as far as they did — through fear of landing themselves with unknown legal costs or of getting involved in a time-consuming, but cheap, DIY law case.

In both cases their income was too high to qualify for legal aid. The maximum disposable income, after tax, mortgage payments, work expenses and other items that allows a legal aid claim is £5,765 a year; and even at this modest level, claimants are expected to pay a contribution towards their legal expenses out of their own pockets.

Most companies offer at least two versions of a policy: ● A full-blown, stand-alone policy, which provides wide-ranging protection for claims you or your family may want to pursue as motorists, consumers, employees, owner-occupiers or tenants, or as

defendants in actions taken by others, or

● A much narrower, and cheaper, policy, usually sold through brokers as an "add-on" to motor or house insurance, covering uninsured loss recovery (ULR) after a motor accident and/or legal expense cover for consumer and personal injury claims and defence of motor prosecutions.

The National Consumer Council points out: "Different companies have different exceptions and present informa-

tion about their schemes in different ways. We are concerned that the information in the insurance companies' hand-outs is not always clear and easily understood."

A full-blown stand-alone legal expenses policy can cost more than 10 times as much as the more modest add-on policy. For example, the Legal Protection Group offers the most comprehensive — and the most expensive — legal expenses policy on the market. It costs £80-£120 a year for UK cover an extra 25 per cent world-wide.

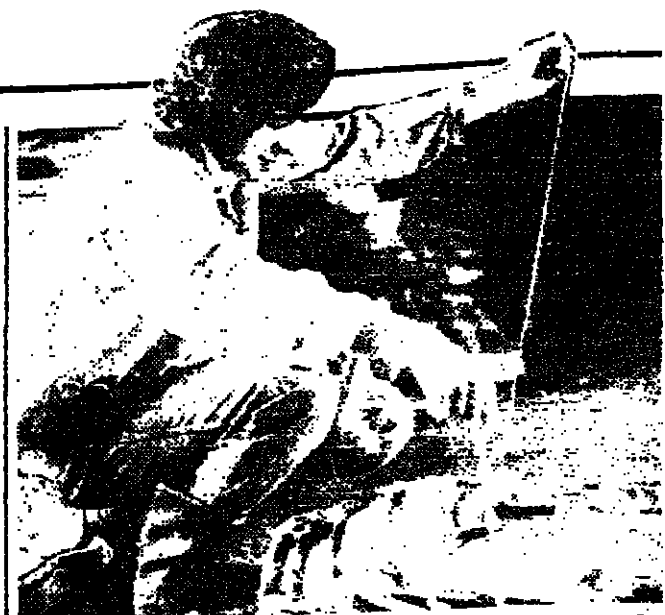
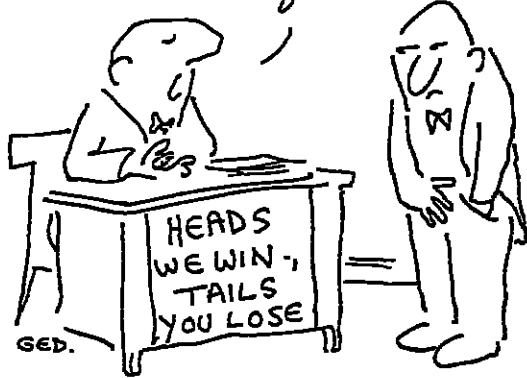
Unusually it gives some limited cover for the legal expenses associated with divorce from the policy's second year onwards, and those associated with seeking redress for unsatisfactory building work — both the sort of claims commonly excluded in the other, slightly cheaper policies.

A more modestly priced but less generous stand-alone pol-

icy is available from DAS, at £30 a year. Allianz and IRPC offer more generous comprehensive stand-alone policies at £68 and £70 a year respectively. The IRPC policy is unusual in that it covers disputes connected with wills and inheritance.

The variety in claims limits, geographical coverage, exclusions and other aspects is such that anyone contemplating buying one of these comprehensive family legal expenses policies should study

The coin will have to come out of your own pocket, I'm afraid



Working holiday: sometimes the employment is manual

How to find the holidays that pay

How does a student choose, and get, the right holiday job? Is pay the most important? You can earn £41 per week without paying National Insurance contributions, £2,605 (single) a year without tax, and, under present regulations, as much as you like without affecting your grant.

Any unearned income over £491 such as building society interest will cost you £1 off your grant for each £1 of interest received.

If you want to improve your skills, learn new ones or take your first career steps, you could take an intensive typing or word-processing course, then sign on with an agency.

Some agencies, including Adair International (01-734 9582), offer training free if you have keyboard skills and a minimum of 40 words a minute and can stay two months. London temp secretaries earn around £5 an hour for copy-typing, £8 for word-processing.

If you offer to type theses in your own university, make sure you are paid as you proceed. Students wanting part-time work only might apply to turf accountants William Hill (01-620 0284), which offer £25 for five afternoons weekly, including Saturdays.

Rates for teaching English, often in tourism-related jobs, depend on qualifications and area. They pay £80-£160 a week in London and the South, and £75-£120 in Newcastle upon Tyne. Check whether you have to combine teaching with youth activity or supervision; whether board and lodging is provided, and, if not, its cost.

Water sports are growing in popularity. So are activity camps for children, but they are often more fun than money-makers. Sports coaching pays better. The rewards are from £115 a week less £35-£40 bed and breakfast at Eastbourne, East Sussex, £50 a week with £25 for board and lodging in Matlock, Derbyshire, and £50 a week with free board and lodging in Northumberland, down to £20 a week in Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

For outdoor work camping facilities are often provided, but a deposit may be asked, refundable if you last four weeks or more. Pay is £10-£12 per day in Scotland, £2-£2.50 per hour in Somerset and Cornwall.

Many employers now use holiday periods to find and train good future employees. Students gain too. They boost their incomes and get the chance of trying out different jobs or vocations.

Students with covenanted income will discover that their personal allowance is already used up, so they will pay tax on every penny earned.

Jennie Hawthorne
A list of holiday jobs, where and how to apply, is outlined in Vacation Traineeships for Students, by David Leppard, and in Summer Jobs Britain 1988, by Susan Griffith, both published at £3.95 by Vacation Work, 9 Park End Street, Oxford OX1 1HJ (0865 241978)

COMMODITIES REVIEW

Exciting prospects for committed investors in commodity markets

Returns on investments in fast moving commodity markets can be exceptionally high. Fifty, seventy, one hundred per cent returns are not unusual. But because market conditions are so much more volatile than for stocks and shares, losses can be equally spectacular.

Trading in commodities is not for the beginner and we should always advise that you at least check your investments with an authorised broker. Knowledge is the key.

Commodities Review will give you an insight into such knowledge. Based on the methods of the late WD Gann, the multi-millionaire commodity guru, the Review sets out a unique set of techniques for investing in commodity markets.

Month by month we'll pass on these to you. Plus over-views of specific commodity markets like grain and cocoa futures. However you look at it, the Review is an indispensable aid for the committed investor in these markets.

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T 07/88

FAMILY MONEY

Taxman's new tests



Taxpayers have become worried in recent months by the extensive and growing powers of the Inland Revenue investigator, with his Gladstone bag and his early morning doorstep appearances.

The Revenue's latest powers, outlined in the new Finance Bill, offer a fresh opportunity to judge whether the taxman is performing his public duty properly.

In the public interest he tries to enable the correct tax to be collected, and for the sake of individual liberty he tries to provide safeguards against unwarranted intrusion into personal privacy or abuse of power. His duty may be defined as balancing the two functions.

The Chancellor's proposals will extend the tax inspector's power to obtain information, while widening the scope of the penalty regulations.

This is a small step, but a significant one. For a start, Nigel Lawson intends to increase the penalty for "failure to notify chargeability" from £100 a year — an absurdly low and anachronistic figure — to a maximum of 100 per cent of the tax in issue.

It will also become an offence to fail to inform the Revenue of any new source of income by the first anniversary of the end of the year of assessment. Previously one had only to inform the Revenue of chargeability to income tax as a whole.

As so often with the Revenue, the complaint is not directed at the proposal — which is sensible — but at the manner of its introduction.

In future, if the Revenue fails to issue a return to an individual — and most PAYE

taxpayers receive one only every five or six years — the responsibility for declaring income will rest squarely on the taxpayer. He will in effect have to exercise more care about new sources of income than, say, his colleague, who has received a return.

This has not been adequately publicized. It will expose millions of people, including many who are unaware of their liability, and some who do not even have a tax return, to the penalty regime. Those in dispute with the Revenue automatically start their battle in a penalty situation.

The authority to request details

Similar alterations will be applied to the penalty regime for Capital Gains Tax and Corporation Tax.

The Bill also proposes to extend Revenue powers so that officials can summon information from three previously untapped sources:

FIRST, the Revenue will have the authority to request details from other government departments of payments for services to consultants, grants paid and the names of business licence holders such as taxi-drivers and market-stall holders. It appears, however, that the Revenue will still not be allowed access to information regarded as "sensitive", such as the Ministry of Agriculture's annual census form.

SECOND, the National Savings Bank will be required to supply information about a named taxpayer, bringing it into line with other banks.

THIRD, the Chancellor pro-

poses to extend the powers on third-party information. At present the Revenue usually calls for information from a third party only on named taxpayers, but in future it will be able to approach a tax avoidance scheme promoter for his customers' names.

What are we to make of these new powers? The first point to stress is the quite proper and beneficial effect they will have in the assessment of liability to tax, although one might regard the tax avoidance measure as unnecessary now that the case of Ramsey vs CIR has killed most avoidance schemes.

The second is to welcome the safeguards welded to these investigative powers: the measures cannot simply be sanctioned by an inspector, but must have the approval of the board and a special commissioner.

Given the worries that tax practitioners have expressed over what they have regarded as the Revenue's cavalier attitude, all this is mildly reassuring.

Yet, seen in the context of the 1983 Keith Committee Report, from which these powers derive, the picture is less satisfactory. Keith proposed a "balanced package", giving equal weight to the public interest and individual liberty aspects of the Revenue's task.

These new powers, and the constraint placed on them, may well constitute such a piece of balance. Nevertheless, their introduction has been part of a piecemeal and desultory process.

Certain measures that are intended to protect individual rights still linger on the shelf.

Perhaps the most important is the thorny question of legal privilege for accountants and tax advisers.

This is opposed by the Revenue, which has the initiative in new legislation. Continuing public and professional concern over the Revenue's activities will not be allayed until it shows equivalent concern for individual privacy and protection.

Two cheers only for the Revenue this time.

Jeremy Allan
Tax partner with accountants Arthur Young

The cost is still going up

I was interested in the article about travellers' cheques on July 9 since I have just returned from abroad. The problem is not confined to visitors to the UK as travellers' cheques appear to cost an increasing amount to cash. The origin of travellers' cheques was the relatively safe way of carrying money.

Obviously, an issuing charge has to be paid. In my experience, however, banks cashing such cheques are increasing their charges, particularly their minimum charges. Thus it becomes economically necessary to cash larger sums. This, of course, defeats the object of safety of money in travellers' cheques, since a large amount of foreign cash is now in one's pocket.

Last week in Messina I found a bureau offering a very good exchange rate and no deduction. However, in Taormina, a tourist centre, one bank charged a minimum of 1,500 lire (63p), another a minimum of 1,000 lire (42p). Since at that stage I needed £10 only, I changed a sterling £10 note and obtained a better rate with no charges. This seems a ludicrous situation and can be repeated throughout the world.

You may care to publish this letter. See the reaction of the banking fraternity and what they offer as alternatives to travellers regarding the carrying of money abroad.

S.A. GROVER
New Eatham, London SE9.

Last year at the Royal Bank of Canada branch by the Bay Centre at Yonge and Bloor in Toronto, I was charged \$2 for changing Canadian dollar

LETTERS

travellers' cheques, from the Midland Bank, into cash. Why the song and dance about Andrew Hatherley (Family Money, July 9) having to do the same over here? I just will not favour that bank with my custom again.

Mrs M.M. NICHOLLS,
Barnfield,
Ives,
Buckinghamshire.

Thank you for allowing Simon Rose to highlight some of the hassle encountered by users of travellers' cheques.

I have recently been conducting my own mini-campaign both with the National Westminster Bank and a num-

ber of stores, including Liberty's in London. Harrods, as always, came up trumps and accepted sterling travellers' cheques without question.

My point has always been that particularly as I am in the travel business I often have sterling travellers' cheques left over from visits abroad and I cannot understand why shops and stores will not accept sterling travellers' cheques without a passport here in the UK. I have even tried giving credit cards as proof of identity.

JIM DUNN,
Managing director,
TPS Public Relations,
London SW1.

Our cash abroad

My wife and I both have modest portfolios. We are old age pensioners and as such are seriously considering a permanent move to France.

If we were to retain these equities, would dividends be paid abroad? What about the tax vouchers? Would they be paid without deduction? I should be glad to have your views.

J.P. MONNIOT,
Mill Road,
Crawley,
West Sussex.

Assuming that you are a British subject, you will still be entitled to a tax credit on your UK dividends when you become permanently resident in France. Under these circumstances, your liability to UK tax on such dividends is limited to 15 per cent of the dividend received plus the tax credit, so that you can in effect reclaim 10 per cent of the "grossed up" dividends from the UK Revenue.

This can be done by

completing a special claim form, which can be obtained from the Revenue once your status as a UK non-resident has been established. The claim will need to be supported by the relevant dividend vouchers.

I understand that the dividends will have to be taken into account for French tax purposes. French tax may be chargeable on the amount of the dividends plus the relevant tax credits, but with double tax relief available for the 15 per cent of UK tax charged as above.

The answers to your queries are that dividends would be paid in France exactly as before and tax vouchers would be issued as before and would be required to support UK tax payment claims.

If you are not a British subject you will not be entitled to the tax credit when you go to France and it will not therefore be possible to reclaim any UK tax. I understand that French tax would still be charged as described above.

Readers' letters for publication are welcomed but *The Times* regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. Published replies marked with a triangle-type symbol are by Bill Packer, tax partner at accountants Touche Ross, in association with *The Times*. However, no legal responsibility can be accepted for any advice or statements in these columns. Independent professional advice should be sought.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 28).

Stock	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Week
1	+4	+2	+4	+4	+4		
2	+4	+6	+2	+7	+6		
3	+6	+5	+7	+5	+4		
4	+7	+5	+2	+5	+5		
5	+6	+2	+3	+3	+4		
6	+6	+4	+2	+7	+5		
7	+3	+7	+1	+7	+5		
8	+5	+4	+6	+6	+4		
9	+5	+5	+1	+7	+5		
10	+5	+3	+4	+4	+3		
11	+5	+4	+5	+6	+3		
12	+4	+1	+3	+3	+3		
13	+7	+6	+3	+7	+4		
14	+6	+3	+7	+5	+5		
15	+3	+6	+3	+6	+5		
16	+8	+4	+1	+6	+6		
17	+6	+2	+4	+3	+3		
18	+7	+4	+6	+4	+3		
19	+5	+3	+5	+5	+5		
20	+3	+7	+2	+7	+5		
21	+5	+1	+5	+5	+3		
22	+6	+6	+1	+5	+6		
23	+5	+5	+2	+7	+7		
24	+5	+3	+5	+4	+4		
25	+7	+6	+2	+5	+5		
26	+5	+4	+7	+5	+4		
27	+4	+3	+4	+4	+5		
28	+4	+6	+2	+8	+5		
29	+7	+4	+6	+4	+4		
30	+8	+5	+3	+7	+4		
31	+4	+5	+1	+8	+6		
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33	+6	+5	+2	+5	+6		
34	+5	+2	+3	+4	+4		
35	+4	+5	+2	+7	+7		
36	+6	+5	+5	+5	+4		
37	+7	+5	+3	+6	+5		
38	+3	+5	+3	+5	+5		
39	+6	+1	+3	+3	+5		
40	+7	+4	+2	+5	+5		
41	+4	+2	+6	+5	+5		
42	+4	+5	+2	+5	+5		
43	+8	+4	+1	+6	+4		
44	+6	+5	+6	+5	+3		

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PROLIFIC'S INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE OVER 5 YEARS TO 1st JULY 1988.

Prolific unit trust (Sector)	Quartile in sector
Special Situations (UK Growth)	1st
High Income (UK Equity Income)	1st
Convertible & Gilt (Gilt & Fixed Interest Income)	1st
International (International Growth)	2nd
North American (North American)	2nd
Technology (International Growth, sub-sector: Technology)	3rd
Far Eastern (Far Eastern)	1st
American Income (International Income) — since launch: 11.11.1985	3rd
Extra Income (Mixed Income) — since launch: 13.10.1984	1st
European (European) — since launch: 15.11.1986	1st

Source: Opal Statistics as at 1st July 1988. Offer to bid, net income reinvested.

Please remember that past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

INDEX-LINKED SAVINGS

NOTICE OF FINAL SUPPLEMENT

If you have Retirement Issue or 2nd Index-Linked Issue Savings Certificates and you keep them until 1 August 1989 you will receive one final supplement of 1.5%.

The 1.5% supplement is on top of index-linking and all supplements earned since 1983. And you earn 4% bonuses at the 5th and 10th anniversaries of purchase. All tax-free.

Index-linked Save As You Earn contracts will receive the final 1.5% supplement on top of index-linking on 1 September 1989. All tax-free.

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FAMILY MONEY

Orange badge cars face the squeeze

Nearly one in 20 cars now sports an orange badge, allowing the driver to ignore parking restrictions with impunity.

The increased number of badges, the increasing amount of abuse and inconsiderate parking have all led to serious traffic problems, so it understandable that the Department of Transport is under pressure to bring in reforms.

Proposed changes are expected to be announced within the next six weeks.

The Orange Badge Scheme (OBS) allows valuable parking concessions for people with disabilities who travel either as drivers or passengers, and

Some councils set aside parking areas

for registered blind people. The scheme enables badge-holders to park nearer to their destination than would otherwise be possible. Vehicles with orange badges are not normally wheel-clamped and badge-holders are often allowed access to town centres, where ordinarily vehicle access is restricted.

In some areas local authorities provide special parking places for badge-holders, or waive charges in public car

parks. Badge-holders may even be exempted from toll charges at certain river crossings. No wonder the badges are so prized.

Orange badges are available from your local authority social services department if:

- You receive Mobility Allowance
- You use a motor vehicle supplied by a government department or are receiving a grant towards your own vehicle
- You are registered blind
- You have a permanent and substantial disability that prevents you from walking or means you have considerable difficulty in walking.

In this latter case, a badge may be awarded at the discretion of the local authority and you may be required to obtain confirmation from your family doctor that you satisfy the conditions.

The scheme obviously benefits those people with disabilities who genuinely have difficulty in being sufficiently mobile to lead anything approaching an ordinary life and, clearly, it dovetails with the Government's commitment to "care in the community".

However, it is abused widely. It is difficult to measure the extent of the abuse, but the Department of Transport has found that able-bodied people, who may be related to badge-holders, abuse the system. People with disabilities themselves sometimes abuse the system, or simply park inconsiderately and cause traffic problems. Some local authorities have expressed concern about the effects on traffic of parking by orange badge-holders — especially on busy shopping days — and there are also problems when badge-holders

Misuse can lead to withdrawal

seek access to some pedestrianized areas.

There was a 17 per cent increase in the number of badges in circulation in the three years to 1986 when the Department of Transport started to consider tightening up the system.

Various ideas have been raised. For example, orange badges could be issued for a maximum of three years or for the period of the Mobility



Allowance award, whichever is the shorter.

More generously, the ministry is also considering including the receipt of War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement as an automatic passport to the scheme. In contrast, the ministry has suggested that blind people should have access to the scheme only if they have considerable mobility problems.

The ministry is worried that doctors may be too lax for fear that if an application for a badge is not supported the relationship with the patient may be prejudiced.

Local authorities are allowed to withdraw an orange badge if it is persistently misused by the holder or by other people with the holder's consent. The ministry has suggested the badges should be taken away after one serious offence. Many people believe that a badge-holder abuses the scheme if he remains in the car, while an able-bodied companion shops.

Charles Jackson

Spain sets timeshare controls

The Spanish government is establishing general guidelines on how timeshare is to be controlled in Spain.

A draft bill, similar to a British Government White Paper, is already in existence, implying that it is the *escritura* system that should take precedence over the "club membership" scheme.

Escritura means that a purchaser has his weeks registered in the local land registry, with the proportion of time owned attributable as his share of the property. So, an owner of four weeks would have a one-twelfth share in the property involved.

This can lead to all sorts of complications on resale, not least the fact that essential legal costs incurred on a resale are high — between 8 and 10 per cent before commission — while selling on a club share is a straightforward commercial transaction, bypassing any "property" sale.

But the Spanish authorities, or indeed any authority, gain revenue every time a week is sold involving an *escritura*



Rupert Lescher "Bureaucracy"

transfer, which is not the case with the club system. About 2,750 Britons buy into timeshare every month, and the majority of overseas weeks are in Spain and the Canary Islands.

The Spanish authorities fear any publicity on the rights and wrongs of the *escritura* versus the club system will only give rise to scare stories out of all proportion to their true worth. As the Spanish consultations are at such a preliminary level, no timeshare owner need

worry about the legality of his particular ownership.

The Timeshare Developers Association, Britain's official timeshare organization, welcomes all positive steps to clear up misapprehension about timeshare, but it is the industry itself that must keep its house in order.

So legislation by the Spanish government, provided it is positive, could be welcomed, but to dismiss the club system out of hand would surely be totally impractical because this is the way most timeshare is sold.

On the Costa del Sol, the UK house-builders Wimpey and Barratt and the Irish company McInerney all use the club system to register ownership. Wimpey's resale problems on Tenerife, highlighted by Family Money earlier this year, were all to do with the high costs involved in legally transferring the *escritura* to new ownership.

Rupert Lescher, a partner in London solicitors Withers Crossman Block, specializes in timeshare and his firm acts

for several reputable developers, which have established or are establishing timeshare resorts in Spain and Portugal.

Mr Lescher says: "If the *escritura* system is going to become dominant, there may have to be changes in documentation. This is what solicitors will be working out for their corporate clients in the future, but as yet no one knows the precise details."

"The downside of the change could well entail more bureaucracy and a more rigid system when transferring property."

The Spanish government, however, does appear to be taking a determined line with its new draft proposals because the lack of regulations in the past has lost revenue to the treasury in the form of corporation tax. If a developer buys a property for £50,000 and sells on a timeshare basis for, say, £150,000-plus outside Spain, the consequences for the Spanish government in lost taxation is obvious.

Diana Wildman

BRIEFING

National Savings at 7.5%

National Savings smartened up its appearance this week with an issue of certificates paying 7.5 per cent tax-free over five years. This 34th issue replaces the 33rd, which paid 7 per cent. It goes on sale next Friday, and there is a £1,000 limit on the amount that can be invested. The exception is for investors cashing in matured certificates — they can invest an extra £5,000. They have a good incentive to switch because the rate paid on matured certificates is remaining at 5.01 per cent.

The rate on the Yearly Plan rises from 7 to 7.5 per cent, tax-free. Twelve monthly payments of a maximum £200 are invested in this and the plan takes another four years to mature.

For taxpayers the best buy among National Savings products is the 4th issue index-linked certificates, paying 4.04 percentage points above inflation.

New service

Oceana Asset Management, a corporate finance company based in Ipswich, Suffolk, has set up a stockbroking service for private investors. There is an execution-only service and an advice service with separate commission rates. The minimum commission on both is £20 for UK securities and £30 for overseas securities. Commission is 1 per cent on the first £7,000, execution only, 0.5 per cent on the next £30,000, and a negotiated rate beyond that. Rates on the advice service are the same except for the first £7,000, which is 1.65 per cent.

Oceana is a full authorized member of The Securities Association.

Finance guide

Personal Facts, a booklet published by the Institute of Chartered Accountants, is designed to help you to keep your personal financial records in order. It is also intended to be a guide to anyone who might need to delve into your affairs if you die or are taken ill suddenly. The booklet lists the information that might be needed in the situation, such as mortgage documents and life assurance and pension policies, and suggests you fill in the details. Personal Facts costs £1 and is available from Accountancy, 40 Bernard Street, London WC1N 1LD (01-633 3291).

Timely gift

First-year students are being offered a voice-control

alarm clock as part of the Bank of Scotland's student banking package. Students can have a current or deposit account. Those over 16 are offered a Bank of Scotland Visa card, which also acts as a cheque guarantee card, and overdrafts up to £200.

Learning young

US 22 is a small company in Tonbridge, Kent, supplying engraved glassware to sports clubs or anyone else wanting a glass to mark a special occasion. The company, set up in September, made a first-year profit of £800 on a turnover of just over £2,000. A company called YES, in Aberdeenshire, made £1,000

on a £2,500 turnover out of a game called Options.

But the directors have a level and first-year university commitments ahead of them, so the future of their ventures is uncertain. Both companies have gained prizes in a competition to find the best out of the 25,000 teenagers' businesses started last year through the Young Enterprise scheme, sponsored by the Midland Bank. YES won first prize, and US 22 third. HiLiS, a Guernsey-based venture making a board game, took second place, and fourth went to Hieroglyphics, an all-girl team from Suffolk, whose company supplied personal stationery to schoolmistresses and teachers.



Managing director, Guy Critchlow, of US 22, with product

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Solicitors not immune on plea advice

Somasundaram v M. Julius Melchior & Co (a Firm)
Before Lord Justice May, Lord Justice Stocker and Lord Justice Stuart-Smith

[Judgment July 12]

It was an abuse of the process of the court to bring an action for negligence against solicitors where the action was based on the judgment of another court in a criminal or a civil matter. Solicitors were not, however, immune from suit in negligence in respect of their advice as to plea in criminal proceedings.

The Court of Appeal held in a reserved judgment, given by Lord Justice May, that the plaintiff's action against the defendant solicitors, M. Julius Melchior & Co, Kilburn, on the ground that they had advised the plaintiff to plead guilty to a charge of conspiracy, was an abuse of the process of the court.

The plaintiff in person, Mr Rupert Jackson, QC and Mr John Hughes for the defendant solicitors, Mr George Fulman as *amicus curiae*.

LORD JUSTICE MAY, giving the judgment of the court (which had been prepared principally by Lord Justice Stuart-Smith), said that the plaintiff had pleaded guilty on the advice of his solicitors, the defendants, who had maliciously wounded him and had been sentenced to two years' imprisonment. He had refused leave to appeal against conviction but the sentence had been reduced to 18 months.

allegations, and all the relevant material was clearly to the contrary. In those circumstances the plaintiff had no reasonable chance of success in the action on the facts alone, and consequently his claim was truly frivolous and vexatious and should be struck out.

That would be sufficient to dispose of the appeal, but two other important arguments had been raised on the appeal. First, it had been argued that the action was an abuse of the process of the court in that the plaintiff was seeking to attack in civil proceedings the final decision of a criminal court of competent jurisdiction (see *Hunter v Chief Constable of West Midlands Police* (1982) AC 513, 541-2, per Lord Diplock).

It had been submitted that that statement of the law in *Hunter* was inconsistent with the law as laid down in *Saif Ali v Sydney Mitchell & Co* (1980) AC 198, which decided that a barrister's immunity from suit extended only so far as was absolutely necessary in the interests of the administration of justice.

It followed from *Saif Ali* that there could be cases where a barrister gave advice in respect of which he was not immune from suit and the plaintiff would be able to sue in negligence on the basis that a judgment against him had resulted from that advice; the *amicus* had contended that the House of Lords could not have intended in *Hunter* to say that such claims would be an abuse of the process of the court.

policy required that that decision should not be imposed either directly or indirectly. Moreover, the court found it impossible to accept that Lord Diplock had overlooked the implications of *Saif Ali* when delivering his speech in *Hunter*. It had been submitted that it would be anomalous amounting to an absurdity if a barrister or solicitor could be sued for work in respect of which he was not immune where no decision of a court on the merits was involved, but could not be sued where there was such a decision and the claim involved reopening that decision.

However, that was no more than saying that the rule involved hardship to the plaintiff who could not sue in respect of the negligence; all decisions that a suit might be brought otherwise could not be brought on the grounds of public policy involved hardship.

Then the *amicus* had suggested that it might be possible to argue that a different rule applied to civil and criminal cases, although he had submitted that there should be no difference. Both *Hunter* and the instant case involved an attack on the decision of a criminal court and therefore any opinion in relation to the decision of a civil court would not be strictly necessary.

However, the court could not read Lord Diplock's speech in *Hunter* as confined to criminal cases, especially as both the authorities to which he had referred (*Sturges v Gardner* (1891) 15 Q.B. 101 and *Magrah* (1889) 14 App Cas 665) were civil cases. It was difficult in principle to draw any distinction between the decision of a criminal court and that of a civil court.

plaintiff's allegations and that the action was bound to fail for that reason too. Advice as to plea was something which was so intimately connected with the conduct of the case in court that it could fairly be said to be a preliminary decision affecting the way the case was to be conducted when it came to a hearing, within the test approved in *Saif Ali*. It was difficult to think of any decision more closely so connected.

Counsel had submitted that such immunity must therefore extend to solicitors, relying on *Rondel v Worsley* (1969) AC 191, 232, 267, 284. However, to the court's mind it was clear that in extending the immunity to solicitors, the Lords in *Rondel* limited it to the occasions when they were acting as advocates.

The *amicus* had argued that in a case where there were both solicitor and barrister it would be anomalous if the immunity in relation to advising on plea extended to the barrister but not to the solicitor. That might be so, but the court would not be willing to extend the immunity that protected barristers and solicitors *qua* advocates any further than was necessary in the interests of justice and public policy.

Second, it had been submitted that the defendants were immune from suit in respect of the execution of the judgment in the action against such assets. His Lordship dismissed the motion and ordered that the ITC should be restrained until after satisfaction of all sums payable by it under the judgment of November 1986 or further order in the meantime from removing from the jurisdiction of the court or dealing with or disposing of any of its assets whether within or outside the jurisdiction in any manner whatsoever, without the consent in writing of the plaintiff.

Property beyond reach of estate duty

Kwok Chi Leung Karl v Commissioner of Estate Duty
Before Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Templeman, Lord Ackner and Lord Oliver of Aylmerton [Judgment July 11]

Where the day before the testator's death in Hong Kong a company incorporated in Liberia and executed a non-negotiable promissory note payable to him on demand after 60 days in Monrovia, Liberia, at the date of his death the chose in action represented by that promissory note was property situate in Monrovia not Hong Kong.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council so held in allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Kwok Chi Leung, against an executor named in the will of Lamson Kwok, from the judgment of the Court of Appeal of Hong Kong on March 27 (1987) HKLR 592 allowing an appeal by the Commissioner of Estate Duty from the decision of Mr Justice Jackson-Lipkin in the High Court of Hong Kong that at the date of death the debt contained in or evidenced by the promissory note was situated outside Hong Kong and so exempt from estate duty by section 10(b) of the Estate Duty Ordinance.

Mr Robert Walker, QC and Mr Jonathan Harris for the plaintiff, Mr Michael Beloff, QC, Mr Peter Feenstra, Deputy Principal Crown Counsel, Hong Kong, and Mr David Hinchin, Senior Crown Counsel, Hong Kong, for the commissioner.

LORD OLIVER, said that the property was not a simple but ingenious scheme for the technical removal from Hong Kong immediately prior to the testator's death of a substantial part of his extremely valuable property and so it was claimed by the plaintiff, the consequent avoidance of Hong Kong estate duty.

The testator was resident in Hong Kong and died there. The plaintiff was a son and sole proving executor.

Two months prior to the death of the testator there was incorporated in Liberia and under the laws of that country a company, Tolu Ltd. That company did not engage in any activity anywhere other than that of acquiring assets from the testator in return for conveniently worded promissory notes.

The entire issued capital of the company consisted of bearer shares owned by the testator's widow and four sons. The plaintiff and two of his brothers were the only directors. Before the testator's death there were five directors' meetings, all held in Hong Kong and at one a resolution was passed for the acquisition from the testator of certain Hong Kong shares for a price of US\$1,807,839, one of the directors being authorized to sign an agreement.

Under the Business Corporation Act of Liberia, a Liberia-registered company was obliged to appoint a registered agent for service of process in Liberia and that was done by the plaintiff. Pursuant to the resolution the agreement was entered into and the company executed a non-negotiable promissory note whereby Tolu promised to pay on demand after 60 days to the testator that amount payable at Monrovia, Liberia. Both documents were executed in the presence of a public notary in Hong Kong. The testator died the following day.

The question was whether at the date of the testator's death the obligation represented by the promissory note was property situate within the colony. The matter fell to be determined by reference to first principles. In the first place, the notion that a debt or other chose in action, because incorporated, could have no situs was laid to rest in *English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd v Inland Revenue Commissioners* (1932) AC 238. It is not a contract which a simple contract

debt was locally situate where the debtor resided, the place being that, *prima facie*, the place where he could be sued.

A debt which was payable in *fuero* was no less a debt and there was no logical reason why it should, as regards its locality, be subject to any different rule. It was simply a chose in action and like any other was subject to the general rule that choses in action generally were situate in the country where they were properly recoverable or could be enforced.

The would normally be where the debtor resided, although there were exceptions. For instance, a specialty debt was situate where the debt was physically situate. Similarly a negotiable instrument would be situate where it could be enforced, and that could only be in the place in which the debtor resided and could be sued.

There was an obvious difficulty in establishing the situs of a debt due from a corporation, because a corporation might have a presence in several different places. Lord Justice Atkin in *New York Life Insurance Co v Public Trustee* (1924) 2 Ch 101, 120 said that under ordinary circumstances the debt would be situate in each place where the corporation could be found.

The critical question was where Tolu Ltd was resident or could be found for purposes of service. The concession made before the judge that its central management and control were in Hong Kong did not really assist for the line of authority concerned with the residence of a corporation for purposes of

income tax was of no relevance in this context.

Where the question to be determined was the whereabouts of a company for purposes of service, the inquiry was normally directed to ascertaining where it carried on its business or where it was incorporated and had its registered office.

Tolu Ltd had no office in Hong Kong nor had it any place from which it carried on business. The question to be determined was whether service of process on the company could properly be effected in Hong Kong, but their Lordships were prepared to assume for present purposes that it could.

However, the company was incorporated in Liberia, where presumably it had a registered office and where certainly it had a registered address for service of process. At least it was in Liberia, making the above assumption, had two places of residence.

In that situation it was clearly established that the locality of the chose in action fell to be determined by reference to the place, assuming it to be also a place where the company was resident, where under the contract creating the chose in action the primary obligation was expressed to be performed.

Chronology wanted to assist court

Regina v Wells Street Magistrates Court, Ex parte Westminster City Council and Another

Where the issue of abuse of process was being raised in the magistrates court by a defendant it would be of enormous assistance if a chronology were provided.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Henry) so stated on July 4 in allowing the prosecution's application for judicial review against the order of Mr E. J. Branson, dated March 11, 1986 at Wells Street Magistrates Court dismissing an information laid by the prosecution against Mr Mohamed Qureshi, asserting the commission of an offence under the Protection from Eviction Act 1977.

The court was also informed that in compliance with a condition imposed by its Lordship (*The Times*) £1,330 had been made out of the administrative account into the ITC's buffer stock for which there was no immunity.

Chronology wanted to assist court. The court was also informed that in compliance with a condition imposed by its Lordship (*The Times*) £1,330 had been made out of the administrative account into the ITC's buffer stock for which there was no immunity.

Challenging police refusal to give copies of seized documents

Allen and Others v Chief Constable of Cheshire Constabulary

Before Lord Donaldson of Colinton, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Woolf [Judgment July 11]

Where complainants sought to challenge a chief constable's refusal to permit copies to be made of documents seized from them by the police, they should do so by way of judicial review, and not as an application in a private law action begun by writ.

The Court of Appeal so held setting aside an order made by Mr Justice Alton in an action by the plaintiffs, Stephen John Allen and three others whereby he granted an injunction against the Chief Constable of Cheshire Constabulary requiring him to permit them to make copies of all documents seized from them by the police and in respect of which permission to take copies had been refused under section 21(3) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

Mr Alex Carlile, QC and Miss Rowena Goode for the chief constable; Mr Brian Leveson, QC and Mr Gerard McDermott for the plaintiffs.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the plaintiffs had asserted a public law right and the proper course was to

ITC's future assets frozen

Maclaine Watson & Co Ltd v ITC (No 3)

The International Tin Council was prevented from dealing with future contributions to its administrative account by the withdrawal of a stay of execution against its assets.

At a resumed hearing on July 5 before Mr Justice Peter Gibson in the Chancery Division of the High Court, earlier brought before Mr Justice Millett (*The Times* June 27) the first, by the ITC, had sought, *inter alia*, a declaration that the assets comprised in its administrative account were immune from ITC execution and an order staying

execution of the judgment in the action against such assets. His Lordship dismissed the motion and ordered that the ITC should be restrained until after satisfaction of all sums payable by it under the judgment of November 1986 or further order in the meantime from removing from the jurisdiction of the court or dealing with or disposing of any of its assets whether within or outside the jurisdiction in any manner whatsoever, without the consent in writing of the plaintiff.

There were reservations in regard to the costs for legal services rendered by the ITC solicitors.

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English and Geography
Class II (Dw 1): S A Cowell.

English and French
Class II (Dw 2): T V Stevenson.

English and Politics
Class II (Dw 2): J L Cochrane.

English and Psychology
Class II (Dw 2): M T Burns; M Morris.

English and Sociology
Class II (Dw 1): P A Fisher.

English and Librarianship
Class II (Dw 2): E A Deane.

English and Librarianship
Class II (Dw 2): H M Biggins.

Philosophy and Sociology
Class II (Dw 1): R Rea.

Film and Television Studies and French
Class II (Dw 2): R J Linton.

Geography and Politics
Class II (Dw 2): J M A McManis.

Geography and Sociology
Class II (Dw 2): K J Robertson.

Geography and Librarianship
Class II (Dw 1): L S Anderson.

French and German
Class II (Dw 1): C A Bradley.

French and Spanish
Class II (Dw 1): D Breslin; N M Kelly.

French and Italian
Class II (Dw 2): S J Mann.

French and Russian
Class II (Dw 2): S A McManis; C J Mackenzie; R G McManis; M F DeVice; R R Gie.

Library and Modern History

Library and Modern History
Class II (Dw 1): M G Sangster.

Library and Politics
Class II (Dw 1): M A Arnett; J M D McVicar; M Melvin; D Walker.

Economics and Russian
Class II (Dw 2): S M Macleod.

Economics and Politics
Class II (Dw 2): R E Bredt; G R Bredt; G R Bredt; G R Bredt.

English and Modern History
Class II (Dw 2): T A Haldane.

English and Philosophy
Class II (Dw 1): S A Cowell.

English and Film and Television
Class II (Dw 1): L H Osborne.

English and Geography
Class II (Dw 1): S A Cowell.

English and French
Class II (Dw 2): T V Stevenson.

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Class II (Dw 2): M T Burns; M Morris.

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Economics and Russian
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Class II (Dw 2): R E Bredt; G R Bredt; G R Bredt; G R Bredt.

English and Modern History
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Kefeah to boost classic generation

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

With the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes now only a week away, it will be interesting to see how the four three-year-olds fare at Ascot against the solitary older horse, Ascot Knight, in the Mecca Bookmakers' Classic.

In going for Kefeah, I am fully aware that Undercut was trying to give him 8lb when beaten three lengths by him at Newmarket in April. The important point to remember now is that Kefeah is the horse in form and is running over what is probably his best trip.

While Pat Eddery has been grabbing most of the headlines lately on the domestic front, today it could easily be the turn of champion jockey Steve Causton to dominate the stage at Newmarket where I can envisage him winning three and possibly four races.

The three winners that I have in mind are Banker Mason (2.45), Sweet Cheese (4.15) and Proud And Keen (4.45).

Rose Campion could be a fourth if she can get the better of Backing Home in the Primula Maiden Stakes.

The choice of the unraced Banker Mason to beat the

Mason is the horse in question. With Spanish Pine, Shabanaz, Lynn Gwynant and Sea Saga all standing their ground for the Food Brokers Trophy, Sweet Cheese has anything but an easy task.

However, I liked the way that he shaped behind Hello Vaigly in his first race at the latter's 10-length win at Kempton on Thursday.

Having finished second to Melodist in the Italian Oaks in between being placed in group races in England and France, Asl deserves a change of luck in the Hillfields Stud Stakes.

Finally, Polar Gap looks the day's best bet in the Steventon Stakes, where the distance of 10 furlongs will suit him much better than the King Edward VII Stakes at Royal Ascot where he was basically outstayed over 1 1/2 miles by Sheriff's Star.



Neville Callaghan has high hopes of Banker Mason, previous winners Birding and Electric Money in the Savory Mill Stakes may surprise some. However, after he had won the July Stakes with Always Valiant, trainer Neville Callaghan told me that he might just have one even better at home. And Banker

is the right groove if she is to end Lango's unbeaten run in the Manton Rose Bowl Stakes.

Half an hour later Henbri's half-brother, Hebbane, can capture the Kerridge Computers Trophy now that his second to Urizen over the course and distance early in June has been made to look so much more respectable by the latter's 10-length win at Kempton on Thursday.

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NEWBURY Selections

- 2.00 Icefern.
- 2.30 Luge.
- 3.00 Hebbane.
- 3.30 Asl.
- 4.00 Singular Run.
- 4.30 Nicias.
- 5.00 POLAR GAP (nap).

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

- 2.00 Dealer's Wheels.
- 2.30 Luge.
- 3.00 Blind Faith.
- 3.30 Lustra.
- 4.00
- 4.30
- 5.00 Polar Gap.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.30 ASL.

Guide to our in-line racecard

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F - fall, P - pulled up, U - unsound, R - brought down, S - stepped out, R - refused, D - disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last racing. J - jumps. F - flat. B - bankers. W - winner. D - distance winner. CO - course and distance.

Going: good

- 2.0 SKOL SPRINT CLASSIC SERIES HANDICAP (Qualifier: £2,077: 5f) (13 runners) **BBC 1**
- 101 (12) 04-240 CAROL'S TREASURE 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 102 (11) 04-0000 SINGULAR RUN 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 103 (10) 4111-3 POYLE GEORGE 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 104 (9) 01-22-0 DEALERS WHEEL 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 105 (8) 1-40-200 ASHTON 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 106 (7) 30000 WHIPPET 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 107 (6) 313733 ABATHATH 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 108 (5) 309106 CHADROSE 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 109 (4) 33-021 ICEBERG 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 110 (3) 08-013 DURHAM PLACE 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 111 (2) 030-000 FAIR POST 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 112 (1) 04-7000 DUCK FLIGHT 14 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83

Draw: no advantage

- 2.30 MANTON ROSE BOWL STAKES (Listed race: 2-Y-O: £7,661: 6f) (7 runners) **BBC 1**
- 201 (7) 1 HEART OF ARABIA 30 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 202 (6) 11-0000 ANNEHARR 30 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 203 (5) 11-0000 ANNEHARR 30 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 204 (4) 11-0000 ANNEHARR 30 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 205 (3) 11-0000 ANNEHARR 30 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 206 (2) 11-0000 ANNEHARR 30 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83
 - 207 (1) 11-0000 ANNEHARR 30 (D.F.G.S.) (Mrs C Lane) J Hills 4-8-15 M Hills 83

FORM

HEART OF ARABIA (8-6) best 8-6 good to soft, Jun 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 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1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028, 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, 1041, 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, 1055, 1056, 1057, 1058, 1059, 1060, 1061, 1062, 1063, 1064, 1065, 1066, 1067, 1068, 1069, 1070, 1071, 1072, 1073, 1074, 1075, 1076, 1077, 1078, 1079, 1080, 1081, 1082, 1083, 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1088, 1089, 1090, 1091, 1092, 1093, 1094, 1095, 1096, 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1104, 1105, 1106, 1107, 1108, 1109, 1110, 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1117, 1118, 1119, 1120, 1121, 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125, 1126, 1127, 1128, 1129, 1130, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134, 1135, 1136, 1137, 1138, 1139, 1140, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153, 1154, 1155, 1156, 1157, 1158, 1159, 1160, 1161, 1162, 1163, 1164, 1165, 1166, 1167, 1168, 1169, 1170, 1171, 1172, 1173, 1174, 1175, 1176, 1177, 1178, 1179, 1180, 1181, 1182, 1183, 1184, 1185, 1186, 1187, 1188, 1189, 1190, 1191, 1192, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1196, 1197, 1198, 1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1210, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1217, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1233, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1237, 1238, 1239, 1240, 1241, 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245, 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 1271, 1272, 1273, 1274, 1275, 1276, 1277, 1278, 1279, 1280, 1281, 1282, 1283, 1284, 1285, 1286, 1287, 1288, 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1299, 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1307, 1308, 1309, 1310, 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1317, 1318, 1319, 1320, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1324, 1325, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1329, 1330, 1331, 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335, 1336, 1337, 1338, 1339, 1340, 1341, 1342, 1343, 1344, 1345, 1346, 1347, 1348, 1349, 1350, 1351, 1352, 1353, 1354, 1355, 1356, 1357, 1358, 1359, 1360, 1361, 1362, 1363, 1364, 1365, 1366, 1367, 1368, 1369, 1370, 1371, 1372, 1373, 1374, 1375, 1376, 1377, 1378, 1379, 1380, 1381, 1382, 1383, 1384, 1385, 1386, 1387, 1388, 1389, 1390, 1391, 1392, 1393, 1394, 1395, 1396, 1397, 1398, 1399, 1400, 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, 1408, 1409, 1410, 1411, 1412, 1413, 1414, 1415, 1416, 1417, 1418, 1419, 1420, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425, 1426, 1427, 1428, 1429, 1430, 1431, 1432, 1433, 1434, 1435, 1436, 1437, 1438, 1439, 1440, 1441, 1442, 1443, 1444, 1445, 1446, 1447, 1448, 1449, 1450, 1451, 1452, 1453, 1454, 1455, 1456, 1457, 1458, 1459, 1460, 1461, 1462, 1463, 1464, 1465, 1466, 1467, 1468, 1469, 1470, 1471, 1472, 1473, 1474, 1475, 1476, 1477, 1478, 1479, 1480, 1481, 1482, 1483, 1484, 1485, 1486, 1487, 1488, 1489, 1490, 1491, 1492, 1493, 1494, 1495, 1496, 1497, 1498, 1499, 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1504, 1505, 1506, 1507, 1508, 1509, 1510, 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1677, 1678, 1679, 1680, 1681, 1682,

CYCLING

Delgado's grip tightens on lead

From John Wilcockson Villard-de-Lans, France

In the most impressive performance of his career, Pedro Delgado, of Spain, won the thirteenth stage time trial of the Tour de France yesterday to strengthen his grip on the leader's yellow jersey.

Delgado, aged 28, from Segovia, was fastest throughout the difficult 73.5-mile climb of 3,000ft from the foothills of the Vercors Plateau, which contains two climbs as well as two flat sections, each five miles long.

Delgado defeated team-mate Francois Bernier, fallen French hero, by 44 seconds, while Steve Bauer, the former race leader, was sixth, almost three minutes behind, losing his second place overall to Steven Rooks, of the Netherlands.

The cool, windy conditions were not expected to favour Delgado, who finished only seventh in the recent Tour of Italy, a race in which the Spaniard lost time on those stages affected by rain and cold.

Delgado's victory was a surprise, as he is not considered a contender for the overall title. He is getting stronger and stronger in this race. The Dutchman has for long been considered an excellent rider in one-day classic races but his best performance in a major tour was ninth in the Tour de France two years ago.

British followers will also remember his second place last year in the Tour of Britain. Not even expected to be challenging for victory at the Tour de France.

Rooks now lies two minutes and 47 seconds behind Delgado, with Bauer a menacing 13 seconds behind him in third place.

Outside these three, the leading riders all conceded considerable time yesterday, and it is difficult to see anyone else challenging Delgado in the Pyrenees stages which start tomorrow after a transfer by airplane today from Grenoble to Toulouse.

Sean Kelly again rode below par, losing seven more minutes to Delgado, while British riders Sean Ryan, Robert Millar, and Robert Millar, were all faster than the Irishman. Adding to Kelly's troubles was the death yesterday morning of Luis Knorr, the managing director of KAS, his Spanish team sponsor.

At the team riders wore a black patch on their racing jerseys as a mark of respect.

RESULTS: Thirteenth stage (time trial from Grenoble to Villard-de-Lans, 73.5 miles). 1. P Delgado (Spa), 2:24:58. 2. J-F Bernier (Fr), 2:25:42. 3. S Bauer (Ger), 2:26:42. 4. S Rooks (Neth), 2:27:45. 5. S Bauer (Ger), 2:28:48. 6. J-H Van der Velde (Hol), 2:29:51. 7. J Simon (Fr), 2:30:54. 8. M Wilson (Aus), 2:31:57. 9. P Fosse (Fr), 2:32:00. 10. S Rooks (Neth), 2:33:03. 11. S Rooks (Neth), 2:34:06. 12. S Rooks (Neth), 2:35:09. 13. S Rooks (Neth), 2:36:12. 14. S Rooks (Neth), 2:37:15. 15. S Rooks (Neth), 2:38:18. 16. S Rooks (Neth), 2:39:21. 17. S Rooks (Neth), 2:40:24. 18. S Rooks (Neth), 2:41:27. 19. S Rooks (Neth), 2:42:30. 20. S Rooks (Neth), 2:43:33. 21. S Rooks (Neth), 2:44:36. 22. S Rooks (Neth), 2:45:39. 23. S Rooks (Neth), 2:46:42. 24. S Rooks (Neth), 2:47:45. 25. S Rooks (Neth), 2:48:48. 26. S Rooks (Neth), 2:49:51. 27. S Rooks (Neth), 2:50:54. 28. S Rooks (Neth), 2:51:57. 29. S Rooks (Neth), 2:52:00. 30. S Rooks (Neth), 2:53:03. 31. S Rooks (Neth), 2:54:06. 32. 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Champion and partners told to hurry along

By Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent

Nick Faldo, the Open Champion, was yesterday called the "slowest man on earth..."

Faldo makes haste slowly towards second success

By David Miller

Tennis players and goalkeepers in football bounce the ball endlessly and irritatingly...

Notable names likely to be swept aside

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

The new broom, as wielded by Christopher Cowdrey, will come out of the cupboard for the first time in suburban Surrey tonight...

Price moves into narrow lead as battle intensifies

By Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent

Nick Price, of Zimbabwe, emerged as the halfway leader of the 117th Open championship...

Card of course table with columns for Hole, Yds, Par, Hole, Yds, Par. Includes 'BEST OF THE DAY' section for Nick Price (67).



Price of fame: the Open leader watching his star soar yesterday (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Price, however, has known Leadbetter for most of his professional career. They met in Zimbabwe, then known as Rhodesia...

confidence. He is playing with the assurance of a man who believes he can win his third Open title.

Hopes grow for Tyson fight

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Frank Bruno's bout with Mike Tyson, which has been in doubt because of a dispute between Tyson and his manager...

Most timely reminder

Bill Athey, a forgotten man of English Test cricket, chose the perfect day to announce that he is still around...

SECOND ROUND SCORES

Table of golf scores for the second round, listing names and scores for various players like A North, D Ishii, H Sutton, etc.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Arsenal let Sansom go, Guatemala in Paris (AFP) - Guatemala will replace Mexico, who have been banned for two years...

Gray sacked as Welsh put their faith in Ryan

The Welsh Rugby Union last night dismissed its coach, Tony Gray, and appointed John Ryan for the next three years...